# 



Thursday, July 30, 2015

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# KNIFEMAN JAILED FOR 4 YEARS

A KNIFEMAN has been sentenced to 14 years in prison for an unprovoked attack on a chip shop manager in front of the victim's teenage daughter.

Leon McTaggart stabbed Narinder Sidhu around six times outside

Simply Fish and Chips in Hagley Road West, Quinton.

The 29-year-old had been served there before but on this occasion had behaved strangely, marching up and down in the shop and banging his fists on the counter.

McTaggart then stormed out of the shop, smashing a pane of glass in the front door. Mr

Mcl'aggart then stormed out of the shop, smashing a pane of glass in the iront door. Mr Sidhu was stabbed after he went outside the shop to check on the damage.

The 51-year-old victim said: "He just launched himself at me. He ran, jumped into the air and landed on me, grabbing me round the neck. I felt frenzied punches in my stomach, back and upper left side. I was trying to get him off me. I did not realise I had been stabbed and was losing so much blood."

Mr Sidhu said the attacker had behaved strangely from the moment he came into

Hospital to be Pub has won

Mr Sidhu said the attacker had behaved strangely from the moment he came into the shop. "He seemed very agitated, slamming his fists on the counter. I did not know what to make of it. I said 'yes please?" He kept repeating 'do I look like an idiot?' "I couldn't work out what was wrong with him. He left the shop, came back in, opened the door and kicked back into it." Mr Sidhu was stabbed in the stomach, under and in the left arm as well as several times in the back during the attack at transformed community

under and in the left arm as well as several times in the back during the attack at around 3.20pm on November 6 last year. His daughter, 16 at the time and now 17, followed him out of the shop as the stabbing took place. He was rushed to hospital for emergency surgery, spending two days in intensive care and a fortnight under treatment before being discharged.

### Hostel

McTaggart was arrested on November 28 at the hostel bedsit at Hagley Road, Edg-baston, where he was living while on bail after throwing a phone at a police officer in an unrelated incident.

A jury found McTaggart guilty of causing grievous bodily harm. He appeared at Wol-verhampton Crown Court via a video link from prison for sentencing on Tuesday. Mr Simon Warlock, defending, said: "He still says he did not do it so there can be no mit-

igation."

McTaggart had previous convictions for burglary, attempted burglary and assault. He was on bail for the last of these when the stabbing took place.

Mr Sidhu said after the case: "I believed that I faced death in this attack. The dameter has a probability are found."

# Scouts are saying konnichiwa Japan



Trip of a lifetime — Andrew Parton of Hasbury Scouts, with his son Jack, aged 15, and daughter Katie, 17, from Halesowen

# World Jamboree trip

DOZENS of scouts — including a contingent from Halesowen — have embarked upon the trip of a lifetime to Japan for the 23rd World Scout Jamboree.

A total of 36 members of United 44, The West Mercia Unit of girls and boys aged between 14 to 17, set off on Friday.

They flew out to Tokyo for two nights and then onto Kirara-hama, near Yamaguchi City.

To get on the trip, each scout had the task of raising almost £3,000

the task of raising almost £3,000 each to cover their travel, food and

events, entertain their guests and visit other camps from other coun-

visit other camps from other countries.

Before returning home, each scout and leader will stay in traditional Japanese homes with local families for two nights.

The camp will consist in cultural, community and nature, visiting a village which attempts to raise the awareness of global issues including the environment.

They will take part in a range of activities including excursions to an earthquake centre and Joyopolis,

earthquake centre and Joyopolis, an indoor computer games theme

Helen Perks, whose son Daniel is part of the unit, said: "It's an expe-rience of a lifetime."

### **MURDER**

### **Body in cellar killer** is put behind bars

THE family of murder victim Baljit 'Bill' Singh have spoken of their heartbreak over the death of the 50-year-old father, who was killed on his son's ninth birthday. Murderer Stuart Millership, who dumped Mr Singh's body in the cellar of the house in Rowley Regis where he was staying, was this week jalled for 25 years.

The court heard that Millership, 33, was a former tenant of Mr Singh's and claimed his former landlord owed him money, though his family say the opposite was more probable. more probable.

• Killed for car — page 5

### **VANDALISM**

### Club attacked for third time in year

VANDALS have struck again at Hale-sowen Town football club - for the third time in 12 months.

Six advertising backing boards have

been stolen from the Shed End at The Grove stadium. It follows two break-ins at the club in Old Hawne Lane.

A new sponsor for the Shed End is about to be announced, with their logo and images being put on the stand. But officials say this may not be ready for the start of the season following the

### £2m hi-tech animal centre is opened

A £2 million veterinary hospital built with the help of public donations was officially opened in Oldbury this week.
Building work has been completed on the PDSA Pet Hospital in Wolverhampton Road, which replaces its base in Quinton. The hospital, which will see up to 200 patients a day, houses operating theatres, a critical care ward and the latest diagnostic and surgical equipment.
More than £1m has been raised to pay for the hospital, to be called The Marian and Christina lonescu Centre of Surgical Excellence after a surgeon and cardiologist who made a significant donation.

### INSIDE

### IT'S A MUSICAL **BLOCKBUSTER**



# freshment facilities, and accessible blood-testing services. "We are also adding further car parking spaces to ease access." Project manager Paul Scott said: "I'm really pleased to have had the opportunity to speak to local residents, patients and staff and get them involved in the plans for the hospital site. "We have a great facility here and we want to see it as a vibrant. healthwe want to see it as a vibrant, health-care hub for the community."

year and be completed by Easter next year.
Hospital spokeswoman Vanya Rogers said: "Over the next year we have agreed to invest and further develop the services at Rowley Regis

# under plans protection EXTRA health clinics, refurbished A CAMPAIGN to protect a Halesow-

en pub from development has been boosted after Dudley Council gave it Asset of Community Value (ACV)

EXTRA health clinics, refurbished gym and therapy areas and extra parking spaces will be created as part of a £2 million transformation of Rowley Regis Hospital.

Detailed plans are now being drawn up following a consultation with patients and staff.

Work is set to be begin later this year and be completed by Easter next veer. status.

Campaigners say this will give The Maypole Pub, in Halesowen, greater protection, recognising its importance to the community.

Customers feared for its future as

Customers reared for its future as it is one of many former Marston's pubs in the region bought by New River Retail, which has announced store plans for pub ear parks.

After a campaign backed by a pentile and the published by a pentile are proposed for the published by a pentile published by a pe

After a campaign backed by a petition gaining over 500 signatures, it is hoped that the Bassnage Road pub will be secure for at least five years because of the council move.

Mick Seeley from the Friends of the Maypole group said: "We've got to look into it a bit more first but we are really pleased that we have caused an obstruction for them."

The Maypole, which also won the support of Halesowen and Rowley Regris MP James Morris, will be fol-Hospital, adding health visiting clinics, refurbishing gym and therapy areas, making it easier to find your way round the hospital, better refreshment facilities, and accessible

Regis MP James Morris, will be fol-lowing in the footsteps of fellow cam-paigners who successfully secured ACV status for the Haden Cross pub

in Cradlev Heath. Supporters fight on - page 3

each to cover their travel, rood and equipment costs.

There will be over 30,000 scouts from almost every country in the world gathered in a tented city for almost two weeks. They will host

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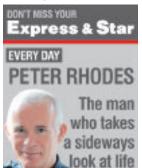
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# Man not guilty of attack with bottle

an in a nightclub with a beer bottle

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an in a nightclub with a beer bottle has been found not guilty by a jury. Ashley Barton became involved in a 'melee' after his failed effort to full' beautician Nicole Hill at Benjamin's nightclub in Halesowen, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. Trade plate driver Mr Barton had denied one charge of unlawful wounding. Last week a jury took 46 minutes to deliver a not guilty verdict to the charge.

Throughout the trial, the court heard that Mr Barton, aged 28, of

Barneswood Close, Halesowen, and a group of friends had been to a pub on November 15, 2013, before they headed to the Birmingham Street nightspot just before midnight.

Around 1am Mr Barton started dancing around Miss Hill, but she made it clear she was not interested in him by swearing at him, he said.

While being questioned by Mr Daniel Oscroft, defending, Mr Barton told the court that Miss Hill flicked him a 'v.sign', then he replied in kind and

v-sign', then he replied in kind and walked off the dancefloor.

Mr Barton said he was stood near

when Miss Hill's mum Lorraine ag gressively walked over to him with her arms raised.

"We got into a tussle," he said. "It

we got into a tussie, he said. It was like a melee. I saw her hands come up so I put my hands over her." Within seconds the pair had fallen to the floor, taking glass and bottles from a nearby table with them, Mr Barton said.

Injuries sustained by Mrs Hill and Miss Hill – as well as to Mr Barton's neck and shoulder – must have been caused by shattered glass, he said.

with a four-inch gash to th her head.

Her mother suffered a gash above the left eye, bruises and a cut to the

Mr Barton admitted his behaviour on the night 'wasn't great, but I didn't do anything wrong'

didn't do anything wrong'.

He said his friend Philip White lied about him 'confessing' to the crimes.

After the verdict, Mr Barton said: "There were no winners in this. I'm just relieved it's all over with."

## **Tributes to** family man in tragedy at beauty spot

THE devastated family of a man who drowned while trying to retrieve his daughter's ball from a lake has paid tribute to a devoted husband and father

of four girls.

Deon Mullings got into difficulty in the water after playing ball games with his daughters on a trip to the Fens Pools nature reserve in Pensnett with his wife Louise on July 19.

When the ball went into the Middle Pool the fether of four coat 35 are

Louise on July 19.
When the ball went into the Middle Pool, the father-of-four, aged 35, entered the water to try and retrieve it but never returned. His terrified wife entered the water but she was unable to find him.

More than half an hour later, Mr Mullings was pulled from the water by rescue divers. Resuscitation attempts were made at the poolside and he was rushed to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital, but could not be saved. His sister-in-law Hayley Walker-Mullings, aged 27, paid tribute, saying: "He was lovely, he was so quiet. He was a devoted father, his life was his wife and kids. He was so family-orientated. It was all about his family."
Dudley Council has said it will launch an investigation following the death as the site is staffed and maintained by the authority.

Mr Mullings was born in Jamaica and

Mr Mullings was born in Jamaica and ad moved to the Black Country around

body to Jamaica and a fundraising page has been set up to make that possible. See www.gofundme.com/zs6xbc4s

## **Conversion plan** sparks concerns

RESIDENTS have raised concerns over plans to convert a Cradley Heath warehouse into new homes.

Krundil Developments has submitted an application to make changes at the building in Pennant Road.

If approved, the warehouse, which was previously used for offices, would be converted into accommodation with 22 rooms available.

Around a dozen neighbours have lodged objections. They say they have not been informed about what sort of accommodation would be offered at the property, while there are also concerns over parking.

Sandwell Council's planning commit-tee is expected to make a decision on the plans in the coming weeks.

### Fun day helps out children's hospital

A FUN day raised nearly £1,800 for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

mingnam Children's Hospital. Kelly Wiggetts-Clinton organised the fun day at The Gough Arms in West Bromwich on July 11. The annual event has been running for four years and has raised more than £7,000 for the hospital.

# £4m to pay for urgent repairs at 22 schools

spent on carrying out urgent repairs at 22 schools across Dudley borough.

The council has allocated a total

of £4,420,000 to be invested over the next two years on work including replacing old boilers, upgrading fire alarms and installing new windows.

The biggest beneficiary will be Leasowes High School in Halesowen where a total of £850,000 will be spent on mechanical and electrical work and roofing for the school's main building.

The majority of the cost will be covered by Department for Education (DfE) fund-

ing, with schools contributing some of the

by Department for Education (2014). The money themselves.

Other projects to be carried out by 2017 include roofing works at The Wordsley School, near Stourbridge costing £365,000; a replacement boiler at Northfield Primary, Netherton costing £350,000; roofing works costing £200,000 at Dawley Brook Primary, Kingswinford; a replacement boiler at Priory Primary, Dudley costing £200,000 and a replacement boiler at Halesbury School in Halesowen also costing £200,000. As part of Dudley Council's legal requirement to provide sufficient schools, they must also be kept to an adequate standard.

### **Impact**

Each council-maintained school was asked to submit their top priority. The authority then identified the projects that will have the greatest impact on raising educational standards, while seeking to prevent school closures as a priority.

Other schools set to benefit from repair work in 2015/16 include Gig Mill Primary near Stourbridge; Peters Hill Primary in Brierley Hill; St Margaret's CE Primary in Hasbury; Alder Coppice Primary near Sedgley, Roberts Primary in Lower Gornal; Netherbrook Primary near Cradley Heath and Caslon Primary in Halesowen.

The following year work will be carried

and Casion Primary in Halesowen.
The following year work will be carried
out at Church of the Ascension Primary in
Wall Heath; The Hillcrest School in Netherton; Dormston School in Sedgley; Lutley
Primary in Halesowen; Netherton CE Primary; Howley Grange Primary in Halesome Middenthias Brisagor in Well sowen; Maidensbridge Primary in Wall Heath; Kates Hill Primary in Dudley and Pens Meadow in Wordsley.

## Sacrifice not forgotten after 100 years



At the new memorial stone are chairman of Quarry Bank Royal British Legion Colin Scott, Friends of Quarry Bank Park chairman Councillor David Sparks, secretary Mary Sparks, member Vilma Griffin and Royal British Legion volunteer Savannah Hunt, aged 11, of Brierley Hill

A MEMORIAL honouring the sacrifice made by soldiers from the Black Country during the First World War has been officially un-

Quarry Bank Royal British Le-gion and the Friends of Quarry Bank Park teamed up to have the memorial created to commemorate the 100th anniversary since the outbreak of the First World War. It honours 147 men from the area who lost their lives in the conflict.

Having been made possible

thanks to a Dudley Council grant of more than £5,000, the monu-ment has been in place in Stevens Park, in Thorns Road, since the spring but was officially dedicated at a special ceremony attended by members of the Royal British Le-gion and the Friends group. The service included prayers and wreath.laying ceremony, as the

a wreath-laying ceremony as the memorial was dedicated by Rev David Hoskins from Christ Church, Quarry Bank; Father Cecil Roger-son from St Mary's Church, Brier-

ley Hill, and the Rev Mick Ganner. David Sparks, who is a member of the Friends group and a counof the Friends group and a coun-cillor for Quarry Bank, said the memorial was created to signify the impact the loss of life on what was a much smaller community a century ago.

He said: "Quarry Bank at that the country ago."

time was a few streets and the 147 people came from those streets. The idea came from the community and was financed by the com-munity forum."



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# – knock it down, says councillor

A DEBATE was held to discuss the future of Dudley landmark, the Hippodrome theatre on Castle Hill.

Dudley Council leader Pete Lowe wants a deadline of September for interested parties to submit proposals for the under-threat site. It comes after Wolverhampton-based entertainment group, Rok pulled out of a £8 million deal to acquire, revamp and run the theatre when agreement could not be reached on sharing use of ould not be reached on sharing use of Dudley Zoo's car park.

At the meeting last week, Conservative councillor Les Jones dismissed

ative councillor Les Jones dismissed moves by campaigners to save the building and run it as a venue again. He said: "I don't believe for one minute that we can bring in the kind of numbers to make that venue viable. We should do what we were originally do – knock it down, level it."

UKIP councillor Dean Perk, who proposed the council debate, disagreed, saying: "I think we as a council need to exhaust every possible avenue we can."

"The Hippodrome is located in what

"The Hippodrome is located in what is a growing part of the town. To drive investment into the town we can give people a reason to come into the town. "I think to have the Hippodrome there with all the infrastructure there, hotels and Castlegate Park, we have a package for people to attend Dudley for the weekend."

Speaking after the meeting. Friends.

Speaking after the meeting, Friends of Dudley Hippodrome group chairman Gordon Downing said: "It is a shame we could not speak. We will see where we go from here."

### You were our hero: tribute to father

A TELECOMS engineer who died after he was hit by a car as he worked at the roadside was a father who had married just a week earlier.

married just a week earner.

Matthew Harding, a 27-year-old
Virgin Media worker from Oldbury,
was working on a communications
box at the junction of Jack Holden
Avenue and Robert Wynd in Coseley
with a colleague, when both hit by a
Citroen Picasso on Monday, July 20.

His wife Danielle, who was by his side when he died in hospital, made this tribute: "Our worlds have been completely broken. Me and the boys miss you like crazy and love you —you were our hero."

Two 16-year-old boys were arrested on suspicion of dangerous driving and have been released on police bail.

## Kinver's a maze in **Crop formations**A CROP maze has been created at a Kinver farm.

The Maize Maze at Kinver Edge Farm and Shop opened on Satur-day and will be open each day from 9.30am to 5pm.

# Hippodrome Brave mum didn't want to upset family



layed telling her family she had terminal cancer in a bid to protect them, an inquest heard.

Tracy Jones, of Queensway, did not

irracy Jones, or Queensway, not not immediately tell her husband and chil-dren after finding out that cancer had spread through her body. An inquest heard the 44-year-old wanted to wait until she had more infor-

mation to give them but died following a biopsy operation on her liver.

The inquest at Smethwick Council

House heard from Dr Philip Brammer, consultant respiratory physician at Rus-

was arranged after she was admitted on July 14. "When she got the scan back we were quite shocked that the changes were as extensive as they were," he said.

Dr Brammer said liver damage sug gested a further cancer and it was highly likely her bone marrow had been infiltrated. He told her family: "From my conversations with Transy it appeared she had every intention of telling you but she wanted time to make sure she knew exactly what was going on. She wanted to tell you herself when sary to confirm the type of tumour. But soon after it was performed on July 21 her condition deteriorated and she died. Assistant Coroner David Urpeth re-

corded a narrative verdict saying: "Mrs Jones died on July 21 of a hepatic he-matoma after a liver biopsy." He added: "Mrs Jones was clearly very brave and decided she wanted to pick the right time to talk to her family."

Mrs Jones leaves husband Chris, daughters Catherine and Stephanie and

Stevie and Jessica, who she also consid-

**Black** 

**Country** 

Mon on

the run

THE Black Country flag will

be flown in aid of charity this weekend in the Dublin Half Marathon.

Ian Marrey, a member of the Black Country Festival,

is gearing up to run the marathon dressed as the re-gion's own superhero 'Black Country Mon'.

Country Mon'.

Dressed in a distinctive red cape and costume, he is raising money for WeLove-Carers in Brierley Hill and Mary Stevens Hospice.

Mr Marrey, a former councillor, said: "I helped set up the Black Country Festival and have been involved in it ever since.

"We came up with the idea of Black Country Mon and decided that I would run a few races for charity."

"WeLoveCarers has been a charity close to to me and my family over the last few

a charity close to to me and my family over the last few years and Mary Stevens is always important in the local community.

Mr Marrey also competed in the Black Country Run in Halesowen dressed as the hero for the same charities.

To donate see website campaign.justgiving.com/charity/welovecarers/

welovecarersandmaryste

### Less than one per cent of art is seen

JUST 80 of more than 10,000 pieces of artwork owned by Dudley Council are on display, with tens of thousands of pieces of fine art and glassware kept in storage.

Less than one per cent of the 2,000 pieces of art and 8,000 pieces of glassware are on show with 50 items displayed in the Council House and 30 at payen in the Collection flower and so at a permanent gallery devoted to Percy Shakespeare. This means 9,920 pieces of art — 99.2 per cent of the collection — are shut away in stockrooms, according to figures obtained through a Freedom of Information request.

# Lucky escape from head-on collision

TWO children avoided serious injury after a head-on crash of two cars in Kingswinford.

An Audi A7 and Peugeot 206 were left badly damaged after the smash on Stalling's Lane on Friday.

The drivers of both cars and the children were checked over by para-medics at the scene but nobody had to be taken to hospital.

Debris was left strewn over the road following the crash which happened at around 1.30pm. The road was closed while the cars were removed.

### Housing scheme at factory withdrawn

A QUESTION mark hangs over a der-elict factory site at Wollescote after plans to transform the site into homes vere withdrawn.

were withdrawn.
Developers had signalled their intention to demolish the former Billinge Holdings site in Careless Green and build 14 homes.
Detailed plans had been presented to Dudley Council in which agent TDF Design said three and four-bedroom homes would be built on the site of the factory, vacant since 2010.

### Youngsters are warned against playing on roof

YOUNGSTERS have been playing on the roof of Netherton Arts Centre, prompting a warning from police. Neighbourhood officers have been leading a crackdown against ant-social behaviour in the town.

Among the concerns raised by residents has been young people playing on the roof of the arts centre in North field Road.

Among other concerns are people begging near the shops in Halesowen

A WOMAN aged in her 60s was taken to hospital after she was hit by a car

She was treated for a fractured leg

# Pub supporters fighting on against store threat

go-ahead to turn a pub in Sedgley into a supermarket but campaign-

ers have pledged to resist the move.

The decision comes just weeks after Aldi got the go-ahead to demolish Dudley's landmark King Arthur pub. Meanwhile, popular locals in Netherton and Halesowen are also facing

threats from retailers wanting to open stores.
Supermarket giant Morrisons look set to replace the Seven Stars pub in Gospel End Road
after its appeal was upheld against Dudley
Council's original decision to reject the plans.

The move comes despite the fact that the

The move comes despite the fact that the Seven Stars had been granted Asset of Community Value (ACV) status by the council, which is supposed to afford the pub more protection by paving the way for community pub purchases. Councillor Paul Brothwood insisted the community would not give up. He said: "Fortunately Morrisons didn't appeal to overturn the Asset of Community Value. Thank goodness we got the protection when we did. The status is still in place but it is only for three years, so may only slow the process down. The fight will continue without a doubt."

### Landlord

The pub's supporters have campaigned to protect the Seven Stars since Morrisons revealed plans last October to take over the site. Meanwhile, proposals submitted to Dudley Council for The Crown in Netherton ear-

marked part of it's car park for a Co-operative store, which the pub landlord fears will destroy

store, which the pub landlord fears will destroy his business.

The plans for the 356sqm store have been put forward by Peter Brett Associates on behalf of New River Retail, which have bought many former Marston's pubs in the Black Country.

Landlord Robin Wall, who took on the pub four months ago, said the loss of parking space would hit business, as would the new store if it sold alcohol

In Halesowen campaigners are hoping The In Halesowen campaigners are hoping The Maypole pub in Bassnage Road is safe after Dudley Council nominated it for ACV status. More than 500 signed a petition to save the pub after New River Retail announced proposals for a Co-op store. A campaign also won ACV status for the Haden Cross pub in Cradley Heath. It was recently confirmed that budget chain Aldi could demolish the derelict King Arthur pub, beside Birmingham New Road, and replace it with a store.



Black Country Mon identity revealed — former councillor lan Marrey will be running as Black Country Mon on Sunday in Dublin

### Pedestrian iniured

in Stourbridge.

The accident happened on The Broadway in Norton last week.

and head cuts, police said, and was taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

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# THE BEST OF

TONY Blair, that globe-trotting pillar of integrity and freelance peace-bringer, declares that Labour can win the next General Election, but not if it is led by left-winger Jeremy Corbyn, Blair misses the point, He was always Jeremy Corbyn. Blart misses the point. He was always utterly focused on getting elected, winning power and becoming a world figure. Not all Labour Party members share his ambition, for they know it is almost impossible to create a socialist society within a market economy. Some would genuinely prefer a pure Labour Party in opposition rather than a tainted party in power. Corbyn will never be a prime minister but he is a valuable rallying point for thousands of anti-nuke, anti-war, anti-market, anti-Establishment Brits who regard themselves as the nation's Guardian-reading conscience and are happy to exclaim: "Dammit, we've lost another general election, thank God." And hasn't Blair gone grey suddenly? Do you think he's seen the Chilcot Report?



THERE was much agonising in the last series of Universi-ty Challenge (BBC2) about the shortage of female team members. As Jeremy Paxman (pictured left) put it during the closing stages: "Why on earth are there no women left in this stage of the competition?" It is a puzzle. Maybe the women do

not push themselves forward during the team-selection process. Maybe they are concentrating on their studies. Maybe they avoid the company of geeks, poseurs and oddballs and have no desire to be Twitter-trolled. Anyway, this week's contest saw just one female team member. She was in the winning Liverpool University team and she spoke precisely one word in the entire 30 minutes "knuckles," being the common name for a Latin medical

FASCINATING to discover that the reopened war tunnels at Dover were dug out of the cliffs in just 100 days in 1940. Nowadays you wouldn't even get planning permission in 100 days

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes** every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

# Homes being targeted y recycling campaign

A CAMPAIGN to boost recycling is to be launched by Dudley Council with teams going door-to-door in areas that have been targeted by bosses desperate to increase participation by residents.

Environment chiefs say people living in less affluent areas are apparently disinterested in recycling.

The council said it was proud of its record in terms of

The council said it was pro recycling but that it was imperative that take-up increases. They hope the new campaign in problem areas will help convince residents of the benefits of recycling. Households which partially recycle or ignore the practice altogether will be seen as the priority by Dudley Council, which has not named specific areas being targeted. targeted

posses are also planning a social media campaign in the hope of convincing more young people to recycle their waste.

### Separate

Dudley residents have been asked to increase their recycling with various bins and bags rolled out to homes to separate waste. The ma-jority of households have

ornical of nouseholds have complied with the request. Various methods of collecting household waste to be recycled have been investigated. The council said the existing black box and two re-usable bags are efficient and economical. Paper and cardboard in placed in a blue bag and plastic bottles

### by Richard Guttridge

and cans in a green bag. Prior to 2013, the majority of households were using one 55 litre box for paper, cans and glass.

A council report said res idents living in poor-per-forming areas would be visited individually to dis-

visited individually to dis-cuss the subject.

Dudley Council's environ-ment boss Hilary Bills said:
"We work hard to encour-age residents to share our age residents to share our passion for recycling and thankfully, many do, which is why our recycling rates continue to grow. "We have extended our hankfully appealing to the pro-

kerbside recycling opportu-nities across the borough, and this has been welcomed

by people.

"We will be looking at a wider piece of work to improve communications with our residents and identify reasons why some people find it difficult to recycle."

Figures released this year show the Black Country lagging behind the national average for recycling.

Mon - Fri

# Desert Rat Bill keeps fit at 99



Former Desert Rat Bill Richards, aged 99, from Sedgley

ards is showing no signs of slowing down.

Each week, without fail, Each week, without fail, he gets on the ring-and-ride service from his home in Sedgley to attend keep fit sessions at Brierley Hill to make sure he stays in shape. It would be understandable if Bill wanted to put his feet up but he is having none of it.

He is the oldest client at the Age UK's activity centre at The Waterfront in Brierley Hill, where he has been taking part in fitness sessions for the last 11 years.

He takes part in sit-down exercises, stretches and also works with weights as part of his programme.

### War

As someone who served with The Desert Rats during the Second World War, Bill, who will turn 100 next June, has always made sure he keeps himself in shape. Having lived alone for almost 20 years, twice-married Bill says the weekly workout gives him something to look forward to. "I've been on my own own

"I've been on my own since 1997 so it gets me out and about. I've made a lot of friends," said Bill.

## Hospital takes on 16 more midwives

SIXTEEN midwives have been recruited to meet a shortage at Russells Hall Hospital and reduce the need for agency staff.

The hospital said it has a shortage of experienced staff with the number of vacant posts riging to around

cant posts rising to around 19 recently.

Deputy chief nurse Yvonne O'Connor said the vacancies followed staff leaving for a variety of rea-sons, including moving to a different area of the country

or joining specialist teams.

Ms O'Connor said agency staff has been considered to fill the vacancies in the short-term but there were

snort-term but there were concerns that they lacked the range of skills required. The recruits are due to start in September, al-though the unit would still be considered short-staffed until they had settled into the roles, particularly as many were newly-qualified midwives and would need

support.
The hospital trust said it

The hospital trust said it would continue to use community and specialist midwives as well as its own staff to cover the shortage.

Chief executive Paula Clark said: "Following recent interviews, 16 midwives – 13.8 whole time equivalents – were offered positions at the trust. Recruitment to the maternity unit is on-going. We will unit is on-going. We will continue to use the trust's staff bank, as well as com-munity and specialist mid-wives."



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# Family speak after killer is jailed The transformation of the property of the





Murderer Stuart Millership





Devastated - Baliit Singh's brothers Jasrai, Gurprit, Amrit and Sundip with sister Pritipal outside court

After the discovery — Beeches Road, Rowley Regis, where Mr Singh's body was found in a cellal

A DEPRAVED killer has been jailed for at least 25 years for murdering a friend and leaving his body in a

cellar.

Stuart Millership 'completely lost it' when Baljit 'Bill' Singh refused to give him his £15,000 Range Rover in settlement of an alleged debt.

The 33-year-old was high on cocaine when he savagely battered the 50-year-old over the head up to 20 times with a blunt instrument – possibly a short iron bar like a wheel brace – in a house in Beeches Road, Rowley Regis, where the defendant was living. where the defendant was living

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Mr Singh whose hands were broken as he Mr Singh, whose hands were broken as he frantically tried to fend off the blows, was then stabbed in the neck and either fell or was pushed down the stairs into the cellar where Millership hid the body.

It was discovered by police on New Year's Day, nine days after the murder and less than Day, nine days after the murder and less than 24 hours after Millership had been arrested on suspicion of stealing Mr Singh's Range Rover from his home in Harborne. Detective Inspector Warren Hines said: "He is a cold, calculating, greedy criminal and re-

ally dangerous man.

"His only thoughts were for himself and what he wanted. This is vividly illustrated by the way he dealt with Baljit after murdering

him. He threw him away like a piece of rub-

him. He threw him away like a piece of rubbish. He really is depraved."
Sentencing the killer at Wolverhampton Crown Court on Monday, Judge John Warner said Millership 'completely lost it' when the victim refused to settle the alleged debt.
He said: "Only you know what happened and what conversation passed beforehand. I am sure the Range Rover and money figured large. You got both by killing him.
"You completely lost it and carried out a sustained, frenzied, murderous attack as the victim tried in vain to protect himself."
The version given by the defendant, who had pleaded guilty to the murder on the basis that he played a minor role in the attack with

two Albanians delivering the Iatal Diows, was dismissed by the court.

Judge Warner concluded: "You had a clear motive for an argument and far worse."

The devastated family of Mr Singh afterwards spoke of the terrible burden his nine-year-old son will have to carry for the rest of his life.

Amrit Singh, one of the four brothers of the victim who also has a sister, told how joy swiftly changed to anguish and worry when Baljit did not return for his beloved son Ro-

man's ninth birthday party after going out to collect a birthday cake.

He continued: "The cake never arrived back at the home address and neither did Baliit

> 9am to 4pm Sunday Closed

two Albanians delivering the fatal blows, was Little did we know that he had already left us. "Day by day out hearts were aching in dis-belief he had not returned home. Our efforts over the days between Christmas and New Year intensified as we shared in the search for Baljit. A glimmer of hope came when his car was found. It was something for us all to hang

was found. It was something for us all to hang on to and believe he was still alive.

"On New Year's Day we were given the devastating news that he had been the victim of an act of evil and had been murdered."

Speaking on behalf of the family, Mr Singh said: "As an only child Roman spent all his time with his father, his dad was his best friend. How can he ever make sense of losing his dad?"

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### IN MY VIEW

# Way out in front for sitting on backsides

GIVEN the paucity of achievement in Brit-ish sport at the moment, I suppose I real-ly ought to congratulate Chris Froome on becoming the first Briton to win the Tour de France twice.

de France twice.

But I really can't get excited by a sport that revolves around strangely dressed men navigating the countryside via an outdated form of transport.

And then there's the Lycra and leg shaving. I know it's all about comfort and aerodynamics, how in this precision sport the competitors will do anything to give

aerodynamics, now in this precision spot the competitors will do anything to give them the edge, but it's not right, is it? The sport has done its bit to stamp out per formance-enhancing drugs. It now needs to look at performance-enhancing weird-

Still, it has taught us a lot about British Still, it has taught us a lot about British sport this summer. We are not that good at cricket. We are not too hot at tennis. And we've known for a long time we're not much cop at football. But when it comes to sports which involve sitting on one's backside, we are way out in front.

A FEW years ago, while patiently waiting for my goods in a well-known catalogue store, I saw something quite shocking.
A short distance away stood the archetypal chay family. Mouthy adults, screaming children, dodgy sportswear, the full shebang

shebang.

shebang.

Anyway, baby was screaming so loudly that even father chav – or maybe grandad chav, he looked over 30 – decided enough was enough. Removing the newborn's bottle from the back of the super-sized pushchair, he unscrewed the teat to fill it. With Vimto.

teat to fill it. With Vinto.

By now this particular infant will doubtless have morphed into one of those 
obese children we keep reading about, 
the reason the Government is now looking at the possibility of a 'sugar tax' to 
discourage unhealthy lifestyles.

At the same time, talk of alcohol pricties is back use the sevent of the organic

At the same time, talk of alcohol pricing is back on the agenda. The argument goes that, because these clean-living people generally enjoy better-than-average health, they think it is okay to enjoy a little tipple every day. And why not? If people are in good health by virtue of eating sensibly, not smoking and getting sufficient exercise, where's the harm in a glass of wine or beer with dinner?

The sort of people who see no wrong in feeding fizzy pop to a new-born baby are unlikely to be unduly careful with their money. Sticking 20p on the price of fizzy drinks will change nothing.

money. Sticking 2up on the price of 1829 drinks will change nothing. Similarly, the binge drinkers who spend Friday and Saturday nights spewing up in the gutter will carry on tipping ghastly lager and vile alcopops down their throats, irrespective of a government minimum pricing policy. All it will mean is that the sensible, moderate consumer will be hit in the pocket again. Like they always are.



Niki Zakeri, an engineer and teaching assistant



College head of technology Andrew Cartwright



Alucast engineering apprentice Sarah Fathers, aged 17

# It's a man's job, but any girl could do it

Females are proving that anything blokes can do, they can do just as well. KIMBERLEY **CRAYTON-BROWN** reports

IT is almost a century since women got the vote, and more than 35 years since Mr Thatcher took the helm at Number 10 as the UK's first female prime minister.

But despite the great strides taken in so many areas, there are still those who need convincing that women really can do anything men can do – particularly when it comes to work in the trades in-

dustry.

It is something, however, that is gradually improving, according to Andrew Cartwright, head of technology at City of Wolverhampton College.

In the five years he has been in the role

In the five years he has been in the role he says the number of females in industrial courses is on the up.

In engineering, women make up about 19 per cent of the roll, with construction sitting at 12 per cent – an improvement of the three to four per cent when he first took the job, with the lowest uptake in trades, including construction, bricklaying, and carpentry.

### Traditional

To get the message across women working in trades are now going into schools and speak to younger girls about just what a career as an engineer or a carpenter might entail, showing them a positive role model in the industry.

He said: "We get the message out that there are jobs out there, and well raid jobs, other

are jobs out there - and well-paid jobs - other than the more traditional women-only route."

Female students of his have gone on to jobs with JLR and Carillion, high-profile jobs running sites and teams, he says: "There are good jobs out there for them.

'I think young girls who are nine or 10 realise they can do anything. I think the message has got to get across to teachers and parents." It is the parents and teachers, women in



Wolverhampton College Mechanical Engineering student Georgina Hordell

their 30s, 40, 50s, who the college is targeting

their 30s, 40, 50s, who the college is targeting as part of a 'two-pronged' attack.

In September the college will kick off the first of its 'women only' courses, weekly classes held over the course of 10 weeks in car maintenance and home DIY. Mr Cartwright says these are skills that would not have been taught to girls at school decades ago, as they were still seen as boys' jobs.

Each course will teach basic skills, and Mr Cartwright hopes that by teaching older women these skills, they will see they are just as capable as men, and encourage younger girls to give it a go whether they be their relatives, pupils, or friends.

There is no minimum age on the course, as long as those under 16 are accompanied by a parent. Participants will be assessed, earning a certificate on completion as well as a tool kit so they can keep up with their new trade skills.

And for those who are keen to build on their newfound handiwork, they can move on to one of the longer, accredited courses and work towards a job in the industry.

As far as the old argument that women don't have the muscle for trades jobs, Mr Cartwright

"A woman can pick up a brick exactly the same way a man can. A woman can use maths in exactly the same way a man can. And some of my female engineers would say better than

a man can.
"Women are very capable of doing all of the iobs men can do.'

jobs men can do."

However, it may be that employers are lagging a bit behind when it comes to getting the message. One student who is nearing the end of her studies is Georgina Hordell, aged 18, of Heath Town, who has almost completed a two-year BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma

in Manufacturing Engineering. Sending out her CV in the hopes of scoring a job, she is already finding it tough going as a women in a

already finding it fough going as a women in a male-dominated industry.

She says: "I have been to so many job interviews. Most of the interviewers we get put with are male, and I think they feel like we aren't going to be super-strong for the job, you need a lot of physical muscle for it depending on what type of job you get."

At one group interview, Georgina was one of just three women out of 35 applicants.

She feels in those situations there is more pressure on female job hopefuls to be vocal and show they can step up and be leaders.

pressure on remaie jon noperuis to be vocal and show they can step up and be leaders. And while there is a lot of focus on whether women are strong enough, Georgina thinks women have advantages over their male coun-terparts: "We are faster learners, we can solve mathematical questions quickly – we are more mentally strong." mentally strong.

### Class

Inspired by her father and grandfather, who both work with cars, she wanted to do something slightly different and signed up for the college course with the aim of working as an

college course with the aim of working as an electrical engineer.

A lot of people are surprised when they find out what she is studying, she says, and she is the only girl in her class of 16 students.

Also forging a career in engineering is Sarah Fathers, from Tipton, who is a year into her five-year apprenticeship with Alucast in Wednesbury.

The 17-year-old, who studies through the college, had initially planned to study architecture until a teacher suggested engineering. "I don't regret it," she said. "It has opened my eyes to what I want to do and there are lots of opportunities in my workplace, from main-

my eyes to what I want to do and there are lots of opportunities in my workplace, from maintenance to productivity and quality."

And while the University of Wolverhampton does not offer any 'women-only' courses, figures show the number of female students taking courses traditionally seen as male is on

the rise.

Niki Zakeri, an engineer and teaching assistant at the university, believes showing women the practical side of the role – getting them out into workplaces – could be the key to increasing their numbers in the industry.

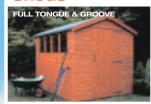
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## Flag critic should make an apology Stadium

anyone can say our Black Country flag is to, he grew up in Wolverhampton so he aloffensive. Anti-racism campaigner Patrick ready knows it.

Vernon said the chains on the flag are a disturbing image and in America it would be seen as the equivalent of the Confederate Flag.

The Black Country is proud of its chain,

nail and glass making heritage, and as Patrick Vernon was brought up in Wolver-hampton he knows full well of the Black Country's industrial heritage. Why does Sandwell Council's Darren Cooper feel the

I READ with disbelief and anger at how need to invite him to visit? There's no need

here was because he was going to apologise to an innocent child for trying to twist the design of her lovely flag into something only he can see. Shame on him and well done to Gracie Sheppard for our lovely Black Country flag. If he still lives in London I hope he

stays there
M A BEASLEY

# needs a crossing

AS a regular user of the A456 Manor Way, I would like to express my concern about the continued absence of a safe means of crossing the dual carriageway between Manor Lane and Graper croundabout

and Grange roundabout.

The A456 acts as a barrier to crossing from one side to the other, inhibiting the ability of people to get out into the countryside towards Illey using the foot-path network and walk from the east side of the road to Sandvik or into Halesowen.

People are hindered from accessing the facilities at the cycling, athletics and tennis clubs, the westbound bus stop, petrol station and the public house.

Whilst I accept that a sig-nalised crossing would be costly, it would provide a safe means of access across this busy road as well as helping with speed reduc-

Can I ask, through your newspaper, that the council reconsider their position on a safe crossing provision as a matter of urgency?

R FINCH

## Manor Way **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

### **POST**

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

### **EMAIL**

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Don't blame the workers for strikes

WE are beginning to glimpse the true face of Mr Cameron's government.
Their stated intentions to
make strikes virtually im-

make strikes virtually impossible is a disgraceful attack upon the rights of working population.

Having seen life from both sides of the management-worker divide, I can assure you that employees only consider strike action as an absolutely final option. Invariably, strikes mean that employees lose sub-stantial amounts of money

during industrial disputes.

This despicable government has no understanding of industrial relations. Whenever a dispute arises, the Conservatives always presume that the workforce strike action should be seen as a possible indicator of poor management.

I have encountered many senior managers whom I senior managers whom I consider to be completely devoid of any management skills. This is backed up by the fact that output per hour in Britain is much lower than in most of the developed world. It has nothing to do with education and skills gaps but everything to do with poor management. The message from this government is that managers can continue that managers can continue to be poor motivators but if the workers complain they won't get anywhere. The worst managers of all are the government.

M CLIFF

# no threat

I WRITE in response to the recent letter from T Weller, Halesowen, who states that it would be stupidity to put a speedway stadium on the outskirts of Halesowen, as

outskirts of Halesowen, as it would mess up the climate with greenhouse gasses. Cradley Heath Speedway have a home meeting every two weeks, for about seven months of the year.

A speedway match consists of 15 heats, each of a minute duration. So 15 minutes of racing every two weeks, is going to cause Halesowen to either burn up or flood. Wow!

or flood. Wow!

I live half a mile from the
Merry Hill Centre. I won't
lie, I do go there at times,
but what does this place
contribute to carbon emis-

I would gladly swap some of Merry Hill for a speedway

stadium.

A W GREENWOOD

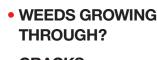
Quarry Bank

### I'm sorry tor delaying train

I WOULD like to thank all the very kind, efficient and caring people who were present on Platform 3 of Stourbridge Station on Tuesday, July 14, at 4.45pm when I fell descending from

the train. Especially I would thank Especially I would thank the station staff, the train driver, the police and the paramedics and the lady first-aider, and would apol-ogise to all those aboard the train for the lengthy delay.

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# Labour's question of power or protest



WITH great power comes great responsibility, according to Spider-Man's Uncle

OK, it was Voltaire originally but I read it in a comic book first. The problem for Labour at the moment is it's in a right old mess

moment is it's in a right old mess because it has no power, but rather a lot of responsibility. It still sees itself as the party that will be champion to the vulnerable, the working class, the victims of austerity and the ones who would suffer most from the cuts. Except that doesn't win elections

And now it's in an existential di-And now it's in an existential di-lemma over who it wants to lead it. Jeremy Corbyn might have appeared to some as a mild-mannered, harm-less Peter Parker-esque political nerd. There were a few of his party colleagues that appeared to nominate him just to have a debate or to liven up the leadership challenge.

### **Equation**

But he has leapt up the opinion polls as though he has been bitten by a radioactive spider. And now the question for Labour is this: Does it want to be a party of power or a party of protest? Some say it can be both. History does not back that up.

Take out of the equation Tony

does not back that up.
Take out of the equation Tony
Blair's victories and Harold Wilson's
1974 miserable, just barely workable
majority of three and Labour has not
won a General Election decisively since



the mid-1960s. The grass roots mem-

the mid-1960s. The grass roots membership are crying out for a party that champions the causes they hold dear. The vast majority of MPs know that passion is nothing without power.

"I want to see an end to the bedroom tax and to exploitative zero hours contracts," pleads Wolverhampton MP and shadow local government secretary Emma Reynolds. "We can only do that with a Labour government. And we won't have a Labour government if we go back to 1980s-style socialism. I don't want the party to be just about protest marches."

Dudley's Ian Austin has made no secret of his thoughts about Mr Corbyn and his record of rebelling against his own party, saying: "I am scared of what would become of us if he won."

Backbenchers Rob Marris (Wolverhampton South West) and David



**Dudley North MP Ian Austin** 

Winnick (Walsall North) defied their

Winnick (Walsall North) defied their party whip and voted against the welfare cuts. It seems to have gone down well with grass roots supporters.

But as Mr Blair put it: "You win from the centre; you win when you appeal to a broad cross section of the public; you win when you support business as well as unions. You don't win from a traditional leftist position."

And here's the rub for Labour, MPs And here's the rub for Labour. MPs, most of them at least, do want to win because they believe in their ability to change things. The grassroots membership, if the polls about Mr Corbyn are correct, does not want to win at the cost of the values they hold dear. They would rather persuade people that their way works, rather than compromise in order to woo people who would otherwise vote Tory.

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KNIFE crime in the West Midlands has fallen every year for the last six years, figures show.

ffences have gone down by around

The last six years, figures snow. Offences have gone down by around half involving the possession of a knife or an offensive weapon resulting in a caution or sentence, according to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ).

Latest statistics show that there were 870 such crimes resulting in cautions or sentences in the 12 months to March this year. This compares with 1,796 over the same period from 2008/9 according to the Government department. The 870 crimes show a fall from 935 on 2013/14.

MoJ officials say there are currently 36 knife crimes per 100,000 population every year in the West Midlands. This is lower than areas like Cleveland at 55 per 100,000, London which is 47 per 100,000 and Durham at 45 per 100,000.

Detective Chief Inspector Kath Davis said: "West Midlands Police has invested heavily in campaigns and operations to tackle knife crime across the region over the past ten years, which has led to a significant decrease over time in the number of offences recorded."

It comes as the latest stage of a knife amnesty campaign is taking place across Bilston.

amnesty campaign is taking place across

### **Banks**

Knife banks have been installed in the town as part of the British Ironwork Centre's 'Save A Life, Surrender A Knife' campaign. The British Ironwork Centre, based in Shropshire, plans to use the knives to create a monument at London's Trafalgar

create a monument at London's Trafalgar Square commemorating stabbing victims. The family of Halesowen schoolgirl Christina Edkins have backed the knife bank campaign.

The 16-year-old was fatally stabbed in Birmingham in 2013 while travelling on a bus to Leasowes High School. Her killer, paranoid schizophrenic Phillip Simelane, of Walsall, was sentenced to an indeterminate hospital order.

## Bravo for young ballerina



It's a dream come true for Hannah Beech, aged eight, who will be training among British ballet's best youngsters at Elmhurst School of Dance

AN eight-year-old schoolgirl has won a place at a prestigious dance academy associated with the Birmingham Royal Ballet.

Hannah Beech, of Brierley Hill, has been dancing under the stew-ardship of Michelle Portman of the MSA Academy at Brierley Hill for four years.

In September she will join the Elmhurst School for Dance in Edg-

Ms Portman said: "She has done

incredibly well and is the first one of incredibly well and is the first one of my students who has gone through to Elmhurst. I only started putting children through for the auditions this year. It will start off with an associate programme which will see her go every Saturday and when she is 11 she will audition again for the lower school."

Her parents Caroline and Jonathan added: "We are both incredibly proud and delighted with her success."



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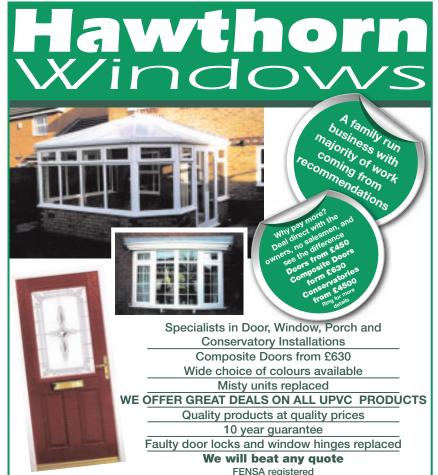
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Boycott and Aggers, the second innings, Symphony Hall, Birmingham GIVEN the chance he would bat all day – and Geoff Boycott showed he could have

cott showed he could have easily stopped on stage just as long.

On the eve of the crucial third Test at Edghaston, Boycott and Test Match Special colleague Jonathan Agnew entertained the Symphony Hall audience for more than two hours with their Second Innings show – so-called as it followed a similar event two years are

- so-called as it followed a similar event two years ago. With 'Aggers' acting as the perfect stooge, the York-shire and England legend gave his forthright views on

smire and England legend gave his forthright views on the state of game today and on England's prospects of winning the Ashes.

He lamented the current side's batting ability, with special mention being made of Warwickshire hero Ian Bell and gave his opinion on the Kevin Pietersen saga.

There were tales of old, highlighted by video footage, while Boycott was also quizzed by Aggers in a Mastermind-style challenge to see how much he knew about himself.

Questions from the audience followed, though Boy-

Questions from the audience followed, though Boycott's anecdotes about Brian Clough went on too long.

And for those with their Boycott Bingo cards, give yourself a mark for 'Stick of Rhubarb' and for his opinion on would-be opener Luke Wright: "My mum could bat better than him."

A great night for all cricket enthusiasts

Mark Shipp



# Out of the chaos comes the sound of Bethan

Bethan and the Morgans
Katie Fitzgerald's
WITH several technical difficulties, a little
bit of nerves and a contingent of the audience who obviously thought they had paid
to be part of a loud debating society, the
launch of Midlands band Bethan and the
Morgans' album, Oddity, in Stourbridge
was pretty chaotic.

was pretty chaotic.

As the show at Katie Fitzgerald's progressed the nerves dissipated, the technical problems were eventually solved but the annoying and intrusive chatter went on.

noying and intrusive chatter went on. All this aside Bethan Edwards, the lead singer, did get a chance to show her voice cannot be contained by a small venue such as the cellar of the Enville Street pub which is run by Eddy Morton, founder of the Bushbury Mountain Daredevils and who is a well-known and respected figure on the music scene.

music scene.

The Morgans, who are fellow founder member David Ross, Lauren Bennett who provides the harmonies and double bass, James Rhodes and Daniel Fosteras, mixed

### **REVIEWS**

in covers from such as Adele with songs com their debut album.

Edwards has a tremendous voice which

can carry an awful lot of emotion and you kind of get the feeling that if she had really used the full power of her vocals she would have loosened some of the brickwork.

Strangely enough they opened with, You Will Learn, a track intended for their next album and which gave a flavour that it could be more rock orientated than their first. But obviously they did throw in severa

tracks from the disc bringing their mix of country, folk and pop influenced songs With a little polish and a bit more expe-

rience under their belts the Midlands are going to hear a lot more from Bethan and the Morgans.

Danny Farragher



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MNA Media

## Thea will be making history this summer



Wordsley schoolgirl Thea Hunt, who wants to be a knight, launches the English Heritage wish list at Kenilworth Castle

AN eight-year-old girl from the Black Country has been appointed to a special role at English Heritage to give a 'kid's-eye' view of its historic buildings and monuments.

Thea Hunt has been made the charity's child executive officer in a bid to improve its events for families.

Her first job was unveiling the results of a survey to find youngster's top history-inspired wishes.

Top on the list was the dream of discovering hidden treasure, followed by a desire to be king or queen for a day, followed by the chance to sit on a throne.

Thea will be tasked with making a number of these wishes a reality

number of these wisnes a reanty.

Emily Sewell, of English Heritage,
said: "We already run a huge programme of great family events across
the country but we wanted to make it
even better this summer and the best way to do that is to put children in

### Interviewed

"We asked them what they would most like to do at our sites and with Thea as our CEO, we're going to make it all happen."

More than 500 children applied for

the role and 50 were then interviewed. Bosses at English Heritage – which looks after sites including Stonehenge and Hadrian's Wall – said Thea stood

In her application she revealed her history wish: "It would be great to take part in a knights' tournament and feel how scary it really was charging to the opponent. I think there should be girl knights too because girls also have passion and drive and energy."

The Bellevue School pupil added: "I can't wait to see the faces of children and their families when they're doing events from our History Wish List."



### ADVERTISEMENT

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Visitors can bring their own picnics to the Museum or stop off for refreshments in the Tea Room. There is a large, free car park and bicycle racks and friendly dogs on leads are very welcome in the grounds.

full details and to what is happening see on the day of your visit, please see the website: www.avoncroft.org.uk









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On Thursdays: Archery & falconry

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# **Brewers back Fizzogs' Festival Fringe shows**

THE Fizzogs are planning on havin' a loff at Edinburgh's Festival Fringe with help from

Festival Fringe with help from Holden's Brewery.
Comedy actors Sue Hawkins, Jacky Fellows and Deb Nicholls, who make up The Fizzogs, have gained sponsorship from the Dudley-based brewery to take their unique blend of Black Country comedy to Scotland for the world's largest arts festival.
The Ediphyreh Festival Fringe

try comedy to Scotland for the world's largest arts festival.

The Edinburgh Festival Fringe takes place every August for three weeks in Scotland's capital city.

The Fizzogs will be there for seven days between the August 7 and 13.

They are also in talks about producing their own beer with Holden's to take to the festival with them.

Deb Nicholls, one third of the trio who are best known for their Dancing Grannies characters, explained: "It costs around £4,000 to go to Fringe for one week. And we've accumulated around £2,000 from our generous fans and a cash donation from Holden's.

### Support

"This is our first time working alongside Holden's but we can't wait to give them a mention at our shows and even bring a bottle or two of our own beer with us – which we're currently in talks about producing with them. We can't wait to bring a bit of the Black Country to Edinburgh."

The Fizzogs and Holden's partnership has been in the planning since the comedy group met Holden's representatives via the Black Country Festival preparations.

preparations.

Abi Temp, Holden's Director, said:
"We've contributed towards a show for them, and hopefully they'll be able to get both our names out there whilst up in Scotland.

"They are great girls, absolutely hilarious and obviously we love to support local acts. It is a really nice partnership that we have. It's nice to be able to try something different." arthership that we have. It's nice to e able to try something different."

Fizzog Productions, formed in 2000

Funny As Folk with Black Country



Jacky Fellows and Deb Nicholls, in granny guise, with Holden's Abi Temp

has presented a series of shows and sketches at venues across the region, including the Black Country Living

musicians The Empty Can at Netherton Arts Centre tomorrow (Friday). tr's the last show of the Black Country Festival and tickets are £12. Call 07757 424618 or visit www.fizzogpro-



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## Bazaar wins battle of the bostin' Black Country baltis

own Black Country baltis in a bid to be crowned the best baltic houses in the region.

Balti Bazaar and Blakey's Eastern

Pormise, both in Lye, took part in the cookery competition held at the Red House Glass Cone in Wordsley. Steve Edwards, chairman of the Black Country Festival community group, said: "Obviously we live in a multi-cultural society and Indian cuisine is really important to us in

### Heritage

"The balti competition was part of celebrating that fact, as their heritage is our heritage. We want to celebrate that we live in an integrated society, and different ethnic minorities have played a huge part in our heritage for 50 plus years."

rant, one being a classic balti and the other a vegetarian dish.

After being faced with difficult choice, as both restaurants impressed the judges, it was the Balti Bazaar crowned the winners, although Mr Edwards insisted that both competitor's dishes were deli-

"The food was absolutely fantas-

tic," he said.
"Both curry houses cooked up uperb food and it's definitely something we want to do again next

The competition was held as part of the Black Country Day festivities celebrating the best that the area has to offer.



Deputy Mayor Mohammed Hanif, Balti Bazaar 's Monsur Ali (left) and Mahabub Hussain of Eastern Promise

## **How baggy do you** want your shirt **Albion go XXXL**

NEVER mind boing boing – it's bulge bulge for some Baggies fans with the club offering some of the biggest football shirts in the Premier League.

Larger fans can now slip into XXXL jerseys.

Villa have also made sure they are catering for supporters of all shapes and sizes by going even bigger with XXXXXXL shirts,for people with a 59 to 62ins chest in the club shop.

### Villa

The shirts on sale at Villa Park are the biggest in the Premier League, in line with those at Arsenal and Norwich. Fans can get a 6XL shirt for the same price as a small shirt, £50

Albion also stock larger shirts, but their offerings in the club shop stop at 3XL. Baggies tops cost £49.99

# 480 elderly people go missing in one yea

ALMOST 500 people aged over 70 have been reported as missing in the West Midlands in iust one vear.

West Midlands Police responded to 480 case derly people missing between April 2014 and March 2015, in figures obtained by a Freedom of Information Act request. The statistics show a wide variety of time-scales for finding people and reasons given

for them going missing.

They also show some cases of people being reported as missing on numer-

ported as missing on numerous occasions.

One 76-year-old lady was reported as missing three times, covering a stretch of 58 days and 20 hours, with reasons given stating that she was a homeless asylum seeker with mental health issues who was living a 'transient' lifestyle.

An 81-year-old man was

An 81-year-old man was also missing for 101 days and 23 hours, but no reason was given for his disappearance, while a 102-year-old went missing for one day, with his reason listed as

According to these fig-ures, males accounted for 319 of the 480 reports.

### Dementia

Reasons given for other people going missing range from them being disorien-tated, to being sufferers of dementia, having Alzheimer's disease or due to them

having drug abuse issues.

West Midlands Police
spokeswoman Kate Baker

### by Jordan Harris

said that all missing person reports were taken very se-riously by police. She explained: "Consid-erable time and resources are invested in finding them to ensure they are safe and

are invested in inding their to ensure they are safe and well.

"Each is assessed against a number of criteria to determine their vulnerability.

"We pursue every viable possible line of enquiry and when all these avenues are exhausted cases are periodically reviewed by a Superintendent, together with specialist investigators as necessary, at least every 12 months, indefinitely.

"New evidence is always investigated if and when it comes to light."

She said the police force had dedicated missing per-

had dedicated missing per-son co-ordinators working closely with local authori-

ties.
She added: "We also work very closely with the charity Missing People, who can provide specialist support to the families of loved ones who have disappeared."

## Mon on the run to fly flag in Dublin

THE iconic Black Country flag will be flown in Ireland dur-

THE COME Black Country hag will be nown in Ireland auring a challenging run.

Ian Marrey, a member of the Black Country Festival organising committee, is set to run the Rock and Roll Half Marathon in Dublin on Sunday dressed as 'Black Country Mon'. In the distinctive red caped costume, he will be rais

Mon'. In the distinctive red caped costume, he will be raising money for charity group WeLoveCarers in Brierley Hill and for Mary Stevens Hospice.

"It is a great opportunity to raise money for some very worthwhile causes while at the same time fly the flag for the Black Country overseas," said Mr Marrey. "We have already seen the flag make appearances abroad in the World Cup as well as closer to home at Glastonbury Festival, and I am delighted to be able to keep that tradition going."

Mayor of Dudley Councillor Steve Waltho said: "I am delighted Ian is taking the flag overseas to show that community pride."

munity pride."

Mr Marrey also competed in the Black Country Run through Halesowen, dressed as Black Country Mon, for the same charities.

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# Train delays due to metal thefts down by 70 per cent

cidents of metal theft on the lines have plummeted by more than 70 per cent, new figures show.

Rail bosses say an increase in the use of CCTV and patrols being stepped up has helped the improvement. In 2014 there were 312 delayed services across the Black Country following the theft of cables, compared with 1,111 in 2012. There has also been a significant drop in the number of cancelled services linked to metal theft, falling from 197 services in 2012 to just 64 in 2013. In 2014 there was a slight increase with 68 services cancelled.

Bosses at Network Rail said the figures reflect work which has been done to deter thieves.

Michelle Peace, senior information officer, said: "We have been working with the British Transport Police.

with the British Transport Police, BTP, and other cross-industry part-ners to successfully reduce the number of cable thefts and impact of incidents

on the railway.

"Although the number of incidents

has reduced significantly the risk is still high and we continue to work to reduce the risk of cable theft. Hotspots

was down to scrap metal regulations, a dedicated task force in partnership with British Transport Police, the use of covert cameras, fencing repairs and patrols by Network Rail staff.

## Pay boost as **Ikea in Living** Wage pledge

MORE than half the staff at Ikea's Wednesbury store will see their wages rise in the new year. The boost comes after the Swedish home furnishings retailer committed to introduce the

after the Swedish home furnishings retailer committed to introduce the new Living Wage.

Currently 400 workers are employed at the 269,000 sq ft store off the M6. Most are from the Black Country. Ikea will adopt the Living Wage from April 1 next year and will pay it as defined by the Living Wage Foundation. All workers employed by Ikea across the UK will receive a minimum of £7.85 per hour and £9.15 per hour within London.

More than 50 per cent of its 9,000 staff will get the wage increase. Those currently earning £7.85 an hour or above will not see an increase.

Gillian Drakeford, Ikea UK-Ireland manager, said: "As a values-driven organisation, we are guided by our vision to create a better everyday life for the many people, which of course

for the many people, which of course includes our co-workers."

# Grateful father's charity trek for hospital



Outside the children's hospital is Jason Addison, right, with supporters including son Scott, second from left

"We now manage the process through the identification of hotspots."

The figures, published following a Freedom of Information request, cover locations across Wolverhampton and the Black Country boroughs, plus Soho South junction, Birmingham New Street, Jewellery Quarter and Birmingham Snow Hill.

Ms Peace said the reduction in thefts was down to scrap metal regulations, A DETERMINED fundraiser will trek 150km along the Great Wall of Chi-na to raise cash for the hospital that saved his son.

Jason Addison is taking on the chal-lenge for Birmingham Children's Hos-pital's oncology unit. The unit cared for his son Scott who

was diagnosed with leukaemia aged four and treated for three years at the

Director of Addison Tyres in Tipton,

Mr Addison, of Somerford Way, Coseley, said: "They saved my son's life so we will be forever in their debt."

we will be forever in their debt."
The trek starts on September 13 in
Beijing when Mr Addison and a group
of other intrepid fundraisers will wind
their way along the iconic Great Wall.
Scott, who beat cancer, is due to

turn 21 later this year.
Mr Addison, who broke his knee

cap in a cycling accident two years ago, said: "The trip is self-funded, so

all money donated will go directly to the Birmingham Children's Hospital Ward 15 oncology unit."

waru 10 oncology unit."
He is also selling raffle tickets to raise funds. Tickets are £5 from Ad-dison Tyres in Tipton, Streetbike cafe in Halesowen and Staffs Builders Sup-plies in Tipton.
Mr Addison is boningt.

Mr Addison is hoping to raise a total of £10,000 during the trek. See www.justgiving.com/addison tyres-chinatrek

## Sandwell is planning an active summer

A HOST of summer activities for youngsters are being planned throughout Sandwell borough.

throughout Sandwell borough.

Sandwell Council is running a programme of events until August 30 at venues including Dartmouth Park and Sandwell Valley in West Bromwich, Barnford Park in Oldbury, Victoria Park in Smethwick, Jubilee Park in Tipton, Britannia Park in Rowley Regis and Brunswick Park, Wednesbury. The programme will run mainly on Monday to Friday between 9am to 6 bom plus some evening and 9am to 6pm plus some evening and weekend activities.

Sessions will include cricket, foot-ball and tennis. The Youth Service bus will host DJ sessions and other activities for young people and there will be Wake up and Shake up sessions every morning in the parks.

Libraries will be putting on story-telling sessions and the mobile library will also be on site in some parks. There will be music and dance, food activities, picnics, fun fairs and much more.

Councillor Simon Hackett, cabinet member for children's services said:
"There's a real variety of activities
planned from football to music, from dance to storytelling.

Young people will need to register to take part in activities online www. sandwell.gov.uk/summer and they will also be able to register on the day.

### **Mavor moves online** to boost his charities

THE Mayor of Dudley has launched a new scheme to allow people to donate money to his charities online.

Councillor Steve Waltho unveiled the Mayor of Dudley's Charities via BT My Donate. The new system, which has been set up with help from Castle and Crystal Credit Union, allows people to donate money at the click of a button. People can also keep up to date via mydonate.bt.com/chari up to date via mydonate.bt.com/chari ties/mayorofdudleyscharities

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Standard class travel is included with the option to upgrade plus two nights stay at a four-star London hotel of your choice (hotel supplements may apply). Includes a top priced ticket for a Friday evening performance.

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Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing.

For the Theatre Weekend with Dinner option see the matinee performance before heading to the hotel for an evening meal. The Saturday Night option includes a ticket for the show to see an evening performance.

Both breaks include a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel plus full English breakfast.

Pick-up points offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

\*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single rooms subject to availability - supplements apply.

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A STUDENT from Tividale has been recognised for clocking up more than 300 hours of volunteering during the academic year. Philip Brookes completed a total of 326 volunteering hours between August 2014 to May 2015, earning him the Union Activities Volunteer of the Year award at Worcester Students' Union annual Volunteering and Societies Awards

Societies Awards.

The 23-year-old, who has just completed his degree in Business Management, carried out his volunteering with the Students'

Union and in the university's international office helping new students.

Mr Brookes said that volunteering had helped to boost his confidence. He added: "I got to meet so many amazing people while I was volunteering, so to get an award for something so fun was surreal and showed that people actually appreciated me and the work I had done."

Students at the university clocked up 21,000 relationships house.

paying more council tax under plans to scrap a benefits scheme, which Dudley Coun-

cil says will bring in £1.4 mil-

The changes would mean single parents, people with disabilities and other low-income households in the borough having to pay more.

The changes to the Council Tax Reduction scheme could affect up to 9,815 households in the borough, it

avings on council tax, with some hav-

ing it paid in full.

But bosses say this may no longer be possible due to the major budget constraints faced by the council.

### **Pensioners**

If the changes are pushed through, everyone in the borough would be required to pay at least some council tax from April next year.

rrom April next year.
Pensioners, however, would remain protected and would not be affected by the change.
Council chiefs are recommending that all residents — except those aged

over 65 — pay at least 20 per cent of their council tax bill, which they describe as a 'small contribution'.

A 12-week consultation on the prosals has been launched by the local authority.

Finance boss David Sparks said:

"Dudley, like many councils has been hit hard by central government cuts and whilst we have done all that we can to protect those on lower incomes, we are investigating whether a small council tax contribution by households that are currently protected is feasi-ble. As a community council we want to take into account our residents views before reaching a decision.'



Councillor David Sparks

nut effect dining table & 4 chairs. WAS £799

more towards the council tax BRIDES-TO-BE are invited to a free events at Dudley's Priory Hall to help them to plan their big day.

The bridal showers take place from 5 to 7pm on September 3 and October 1 when there will be displays by photographers and stalls featuring jewellery, make-up, cakes and other services.

The events are aimed at future brides and their mums, sisters, bridesmaids and

and their mums, sisters, bridesmaids and friends with visitors being given a free glass of Bucks Fizz on arrival. Registrars will also be on hand to an-

swer any questions, to book ceremonies, discuss ceremony options and take pay-ments. A range of 'pre-loved' bridal gowns will also be on display to purchase, many of which have never been worn.

For more information contact the office on (01384) 818349 or email enquiry@dudleygov.uk

## Arcade Toy Shop is back in familar place



Toy shop's new owners Martyn Perry, left, and Dave Carter

A POPULAR toy shop, that has been a Dudley institution for decades, has officially reopened under new owners in its original location.

Dave Carter and Martyn Perry bought Dudley's famous Arcade Toy Shop, based in the Fountain Arcade, saving it from disappearing from the town scene. In May previous owner Alan Caswell, whose family had

run the shop since 1968, started his retirement.

Mr Carter and Mr Perry decided to take on the store and coinciding with a major revamp of the Fountain Arcade, returning it to its original 1930s glory. Due to works in

returning it to its original 1930s giory. Due to works in recent months it had moved to another unit in the arcade but now the shop is back in its usual place.

Mr Carter, aged 47, who worked at Dudley Council for 22 years and business partner Martyn, 51, plan to keep the shop as well-stocked as it was with a large variety of toys for all ages. Mr Carter added: "We have had so many people coming in saying how glad they are that it is staying so they can carry on the tradition of buying their children and grandchildren toys from the town."

## Pupil work experience involved Germany trip

STUDENTS from a Dudley school travelled to Germany to

STUDENTS from a Dudley school travelled to Germany to complete work experience placements.

For the second year, 15-year-old students from High Arcal School's 'gifted and talented' programme visited the German town of Oldenburg for work experience. The teenagers spent a week working in a range of German companies, including a newly opened hotel, media consultancy, IT software company, a school and a hospital.

This work experience programme is a joint initiative between the High Arcal School and its partner institution in Germany, The Academy of English. Students stayed with German families and took part in a range of events. The highlight of the trip was a team-building exercise, known in German as a 'betriebsausflug'. The Academy hired three light aircraft from the Motorfluggruppe Wilhelmshaven and flew the students to the island of Wangerooge for a day trip.













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# Plan to sell off Broadfield House to fund new museum

BROADFIELD House Glass Museum faces closure as part of multi-million pound proposals for a new attraction in the borough.

The move comes around six years after a high profile campaign was

fought to keep the Kingswinford venue open.

Plans are in the pipeline to create a £5 million glass museum at Wordsley's White House Glass Cone site, once home to Stuart Crystal. It has emerged offi-

# Investment to keep pace with to keep pace with the cost of building broadfield House bused the cost of building the new museum. Broadfield House, bought by Staffordshire County Council in the 1940s and transferred to Dudley in the '60s, was officially opened as a glass museum by Princess Michael of Kent in 1980. Ward councillors were told in brief-ing documents that the museum would close by the end of the year, under pick-up trucks

BRIERLEY HIII-based 4X4 venicle ac-cessory manufacturer and distributor, Auto Styling Truckman, has invested in a new and larger development and tool-making workshop ahead of the launch of a portfolio of new hardtops

tool-making workshop shead of the launch of a portfolio of new hardtops for pick-up trucks.

The new facility, in the company's new fitting and distribution centre, involves an investment of £60,000.

It will support the development of the company's extensive range of hardtops, including a number of new designs being created for the launch of new pick-up trucks that will hit the UK market in the next nine months.

At 225 sq ft, the new development and tool making workshop is double the size of the company's existing operation and will create the tooling that will subsequently be used to manufacture within its current 30,000 sq ft production facility.

Currently employing three expert tool makers, Auto Styling Truckman plans to recruit an additional two more skilled people.

# Iconic park gates are back after revamp



The ornate gates at Mary Stevens Park, inspired by Buckingham Palace gates, are back in place but need finishing touches

A STOURBRIDGE park's famous gates have returned to their rightful home after four months away undergoing restoration work.

The entrance to Mary Stevens Park had looked a little bare since the wrought iron gates were taken away at the end of March, but they were lowered back into place on Saturday in sparkling condition following their makeover.

The Grade II listed gates, which were modelled on the entrance to Buckingham Palace, were given a

spruce up as part of a £3 million renovation of the park.

It was the first time the gates had

It was the first time the gates had been removed or modified since being installed in 1931. They were put in place after Ernest Stevens dedicated the park, named after his late wife Mary, to the people of Stourbridge.

The revamp will see the park's bandstand restored and the addition of a new cafe, which was being officially opened this week.

Chairman of the Friends of Mary Stevens Park Heather Rogers, who is

also a councillor, said: "It's really good to see them back. Since 1998 we have been trying to get the gates restored." Though the gates have been hung

back into the place they have spent the last 84 years, their restoration is not quite complete.

Councillor Rogers added: "There is a lot more work to be done on the gates themselves, such as the gilding."

An old print room and office, previously used by the council, has been transformed into a cafe.

## Town's old cinema is on the market

A LANDMARK former cinema in Stourbridge has been put on the market for £350,000.

Development opportunities are being invited for the former Savoy cinema on Lower High Street.

The property contains a series of interlinked buildings which stretch onto Crown Lane.
The historic building has not been

used as a cinema for more than three decades and in recent years attracted controversy when it was the Heaven lap-dancing club.

It has also been used for retail pur-

poses and more recently was a health and fitness club.

and inness cruo.

Alan Knight, head of commercial at Walton and Hipkiss, which is handling the sale of the building, said groups wanting to reopen it as a cinema had shown interest in the build-

ema had shown interest in the build-ing, but believes it is more likely the site will become housing.

He said: "We have had a couple of enquiries from cinema operators who like to retain or bring back into use cinemas that have been left empty.

"The problem with the Savoy is that it has been dismantled as a cinema. I think it is unlikely because of the sheer cost that would be involved. I think it's more likely there will be some sort of residential conversion."

The Savoy closed as a cinema in

### Tickets selling fast for Black Country Ball

PEOPLE are urged to get their tickets fast for a charity ball organised by Miss Black Country, Jade Secker. The Empty Can will be performing alongside comedians Jonny Cole and

Marlene at the Black Country Ball on Friday, August 7, at The Village Hotel, Dudley. The event features a buffet. Cash will go to children's charity Beauty with a Purpose. Tickets cost £20, Call 07707 626786 or email missblackcountry@hotmail.com

# NAMES YOU CAN T

cross later this year to enable the property to be placed on the open market.

"The proceeds of sale will be used as the council's contribution towards the cost of the new museum project. The intention is that the glass collection will remain at BHGM for a period of six to nine months while it is fully cathered is used in sections.

alogued in readiness for the move to the new museum. During this period the collection will not be available to

view."
Dudley Council UKIP leader Paul
Brothwood. said: "It is very disap-pointing that Broadfield House would close. More discussions are needed."



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ed last weekend that his famous father could have hailed from the Black Country.

Rumours of the silent movie tar's links to the region have circulated for years. In 2011 it emerged that a secret letter found hidden in a drawer belonging to Chaplin claimed he was born in what is now Black Patch Park in Smethwick.

Smethwick.

Oldest surviving son Michael Chaplin visited the park on Sunday to unveil a memorial honouring the Romany gypsies that once lived there – and whose community Chaplin is reported to have been born into.

The star's birth has always remained something of a mystery, with no birth certificate having been found. Chaplin grew up in London, where he was thought to have been born.

### Roots

Chaplin claimed in his autobiogra-phy that he was born in London in 1889. But the letter, written by a man called Jack Hill, from Tamworth, said called Jack Hill, from Tamworth, said he was also born on the Black Patch, two years after Chaplin, and that he was the only man alive who knew of his true roots.

Chaplin's daughter Victoria found the letter after her father's bureau was passed onto her following the death of Chaplin's widow Oona.

Asked about the prospect of Chaplin being born in Smethwick, Michael said: "I think it's very likely, yes. The fact that letter was kept in the drawer means it must have meant something

means it must have meant something to him. It was locked in the drawer, he

to him. It was locked in the drawer, he never told anybody about it."

Michael, who is 69 and lives in the south of France, officially unveiled the granite monument at the park's Hockley Brook bridge. The ceremony took place 110 years to the day that the Romany gypsies were evicted from the Black Patch and honours their role



Michael Chaplin unveils the plaque



Chaplin as his famous Tramp characte



Black Patch Park, where Charlie Chaplin is rumoured to have been born

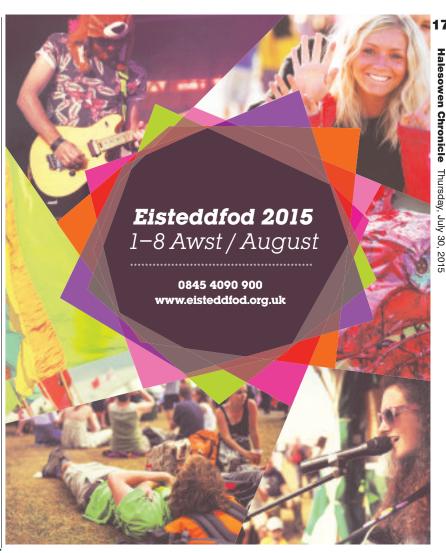
in ensuring the land was preserved as public open space. Michael said he was honoured to be invited by the Birmingham Romany Memorial Review group. He said: "I think he often said he was a gyspy, we know his grandmother was. Sometimes he would boast about it other times he dish't want to talk

it, other times he didn't want to talk

"He said in his autobiography that he had a skeleton in the cupboard. At that time, gypsies were persecuted and

aplin is rumoured to have been born it didn't necessarily go in his favour to boast about being a gypsy," he said. Simon Baddeley, a founding member of the Friends of Black Patch Park group, believes the park could become a tourist attraction.

Ted Rudge, chairman of the Birmingham Romany Memorial Review group, who wrote about the Black Patch gypsies in his book Brumroamin and secured the memorial for the park, said it would lift the park if it was true.



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Staff outside Boynton's Butchers in Pinfold Street



Middleton's Fish Shop in King Street in the 1980s



Mrs Carless with her large selection of sweets at the Carless Sweet Shop at Catherine's Cross

# **History of once-vibrant** shopping town in store

lished to celebrate the impact of the dozens of shops that had people flocking to

that had people flocking to Darlaston.

The 92-page book titled 'Shops and Clubs of Darlaston Throughout the Years' is the result of a project undertaken by the Darlaston All Active charity and was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund grant to the tune of £54,000.

It features dozens of old photographs of the old businesses and clubs, going back as far back as the late 19th

going back as far back as the late 19th going back as far back as the late 19th century. It also includes several stories from contributors who recall the days when Darlaston was a buzzing shopping hub.

The team behind the book said there

were about 70 shops in the town in its heyday, but now there are just a dozen. They say things have never been the same since Asda's redeveloped supermarket came to the town – built on land where some its former and most loved family, run shore stood

loved family-run shops stood. The book tells how William Wenn's grocery store in Pinfold Street in the

19th century was the first building in 19th century was the first building in Darlaston to be lit by electricity. And it explores the history of other family-run businesses, including the likes of Boynton's the Butchers, J.T Underwood's Shoe Shop, Burton's the tailors, Howard Brothers which sold radios, televisions and records, Middleton's toy shop and George Mason's Butchers.

Butchers.

It also gives an insight into the history of family run store Bedworth's in tory of family run store bedworth's in King Street – owned by town resident Leonard Bedworth – which sold gro-ceries and on its first floor ran Darlas-ton's first ever cafe in the 1950s. King Street, described as the main

King Street, described as the mam shopping street of the town in years gone by, included an array of butch-ers shops, a cooked meat shop, two greengroers, cake shops, two wet fish shops and a furniture store – some are still trading today. Clothing shop Clemmy's of King Street opened in 1967 and expanded into a school uni-

form business. The shop is still part of the town centre today under the name Clemmys.

There is also a dedicated chapter There is also a dedicated chapter about L & S Middleton's fish shop in Church Street in the 1960s, which ex-panded to a cash and carry business which is still going strong today in Willenhall.

Darlaston All Active member Paul-

Darlaston All Active member Pauline Poole writes about her memories of shopping in the town centre and the excitement it used to create.

The book also details all the shops in Darlaston Green, Walsall Road and on Blockall Road, including several sweet shops. A detailed history of the town's fish and chip shops is included. It was compiled by Darlaston All Active member and town historian Tony Highfield, 73, who has written several books detailing Darlaston's proud history for the past 20 years.

books detailing Darlaston's proud his-tory for the past 20 years.

More than 200 people were at an event to see the book being launched by Walsall Mayor Councillor Angela Underhill on July 17. The book is available to buy at the Darlaston All Active centre. For more information call 0121 5686 144.



Sharon Felton and compiler, historian Tony Highfield



Billy Winfindale, now aged 92, ran his cycle shop in Wolverhampton Street for many years



# Extra jobs 12 as £4.5m is invested

A HI-TECH business in Kingswinford is to recruit 20 new staff over the next 12 months after winning a £4.5 million investment from the Business Growth Fund.

The investment in Simworx, a designer and supplier of advanced theme park attractions, will also enable it to buy Robo-Coaster, the Warwickshire-based innovator

Coaster, the warwicksnire-based innovator behind some of the most successful rides. Part of the funding will be used to double the size of the Simworx production plant in Second Avenue and increase its demonstration facilities. The business will also add to

tion facilities. The business will also add to its existing 30 employees by recruiting the new members of staff including designers, engineers and administrative staff.

Established by Terry Monkton and Andrew Roberts in 2005, Simworx created the Angry Birds 4D cinema at Thorpe Park, near London, for Merlin Entertainments.

The firm was again chosen by Merlin to develop and deliver one of the main attractions at Shrek's Adventure theme park, which opened in London in July. The ride is based on Simworx's Immersive Tunnel, where guests board a themed motion simulator and are surrounded by a 3D screen.

Big Brother is watching ou – on 1,000 cameras

## On a wing and a prayer for charity



Kelly Tittley, of New Birmingham Road, Tividale, with her niece Lauren Hales, who has inspired her fundraising stunt

A MOTHER-OF-THREE has been inspired by her niece to undertake a terrifying mid-air wing walk to raise cash for

Kelly Tittley, of New Birmingham Road, Tividale, will become one of the first people in the UK to complete a walk along the wing of a biplane for charity.

Mrs Tittley is fundraising for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust,

as her 10-year-old niece Lauren Hales suffers from the con-

The walk in the sky will take place in Yorkshire just two

days before Mrs Tittley's 40th birthday.

She said: "We've done fundraising before but this year I'm turning 40 and want to go into the year with a wow.

"I wanted to choose something that was frightening for me and something that was a real test. I wanted something that would challenge me in the way that Lauren is challenged on a regular basis."

# **Special school is** proud to be in **Parliament book**

A FLAGSHIP special school in Dudley has been featured in a prestigious book on British history.

"The Story of Parliament: Celebrating '750 years of Parliament in Britain' gives a comprehensive account of sealing processing the product of the process of the pro parliamentary politics, with heads of state and British embassies worldwide receiving copies.

Inside they will also find a double-page spread pro-filing Brier School in Kingswinford.

swinford.

Headteacher Russell Hinton, explained: "In the book you have got sections about the history of Parliament but then also sections about different elements of what make up modern Britain.

ucation, where we fitted in, a section on manufacturing, one on health and many more. They looked at several different schools when deciding on who would be involved. We were picked for being an inclusive school with a good reputation." The school was first asked

to be involved around 18 months ago by The History of Parliament Trust. Staff from the trust came to the school and carried out inter-views and took photographs

to create the feature Mr Hinton, added: "Pic-tures of Brier School may be seen across the world. That is fantastic." cameras are watching and re-cording people in the Black Country.

A total of 706 of those are in Sandwell, compared to 208 in Wolverhampton, 124 in Walsall and just 90 in Dudley.

Bosses have defended the use of the

cameras, insisting they are vital to catch criminals and crack down on offences like fly-tipping. But campaigners say there is little evidence that CCTV works in cutting

crime.

Alex Deane, director of campaign group Big Brother Watch, said: "Local councils are creating enormous networks of CCTV surveillance at great expense, but the evidence for the ability of CCTV to deter or solve crimes is sketchy at best.

"The quality of footage is frequently too poor to be used in courts, the cameras are often turned of the says money and central."

often turned off to save money and control rooms are rarely manned 24 hours a day.

**Report by Adam Burling** 

"With crime on the increase, it is understandable that some people want more CCTV, but we would all feel safer with more police on the beat, there would be fewer crimes and those crimes that do occur would be solved faster."

A total of 119 arrests were made using CCTV evidence in Sandwell in 2014/15—

nearly three times the amount in 2011/12.

### Monitored

Last year the control room detected 2,627 incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour, with a further 1,773 incidents passed on to other parts of the council or partner agencies such as West Midlands believe.

Some of Sandwell's cameras are monitored in the council's control room, while others are recording but are not being continually checked.

Sandwell Council argues that its fig-

network on housing estates. Some 371 cameras are based at estates with the rest placed to view roads and sites like ceme-

teries and the council house in Oldbury.
Eleven of Dudley's 90 cameras are in
Stourbridge's Foster Street subway, while
Wolverhampton has 76 for 'urban traffic management' at peak times. Sandwell Council leader, Councillor Darren Cooper. said: "Our close-circuit television system is designed to make Sandwell a safer and more welcoming place for residents and visitors alike.

"The number of cameras monitored from our CCTV central control room is around 450, the majority of these, around 375, focus on our high-rise estates and also control door entry for more than 2,000 flats with a further 75 being public space cameras covering town centres. A further 250 cameras are in locations such as libraries, crematoria, care centres and other council offices for the protection and safety of staff and visitors.

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### **Funeral For** A Friend



Saturday, 7pm Slade Rooms, W'ton Funeral For A Friend are a Welsh post-hardcore band from Bridgend who formed back in 2001. The band is led by lead vocalist Matthew Davies-Kreye. Visit www.wolvescivic.co.uk

### **ROCK & POP**

CoCo And The Butterfields Sat at 8pm. £12 Sat at spm, £12 Artrix, Slideslow Drive, Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330

Rattlesnake Jake Sat at 12am, £8 Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB. Call 01384 374410

Sat at 7.30pm, 7.30pm, £8 The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

Kate Voegele & Tyler Hilton Thu at 7pm, £17.50 O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Hollywood Ending Wed at 7pm, £12.50 O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Funeral For A Friend Sat at 7pm, £12 Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, Call 0870 320 7000

Death Angel Tue at 7pm, £12.50 Wolverhampton Civic Hall,

WV1 1RQ Call 0870 320 7000

Sat at 7pm, £6
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
Kings Norton, Birmingham,
B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

Solstafir Fri at 6.30pm - 10pm, £12.50 The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Bad Religion Wed at 7pm, £18.50 The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Supreme Queen Friday at 7pm £11.00 / £13.00 Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ Call 01902 401211

Sat at 7pm £12.50/£15.00 Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ Call 01902 401211

### **FOLK & ACOUSTIC**

Irish Music Session Wed at 12am, Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB. Call 01384 374410

### The Three Little Pigs



Runs until Sunday Town Hall B'ham Simon Webbe (Blue, Strictly Come Dancing, Sister Act) stars in this new musical from the multi-award winning musical theatre song-writing duo that is George Stiles and Anthony Drewe. Visit www.thsh.co.uk

Open Mic Night Mon at 12am, Free Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB. Call 01384 374410

Carnival Of The Bizarre

Family Fun Festival 2015: Poppins With A Twist: Out Of The Box Fri at 7pm, £6 - £8

Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330

Family Fun Festival 2015: A

Dragón's Tale Fri at 2pm, £4 - £5 Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330

Fri at 8pm, £15 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,

The Three Little Pigs Fri at 11am - 12pm, 1.30pm -2.30pm, Sat at 11am - 12pm, 1.30pm - 2.30pm, Sun at 11am -12pm, 1.30pm - 2.30pm, £12 - £14

Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.

Call 01785 254653

Call 0121 780 3333 Barnum Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,

Call 0844 338 5000

Call 0844 338 5000

7.30pm, £19.50 - £48.50

Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB

The Bodyguard Wed at 2pm, 2pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm, £18 - £49.50 Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB.

Motown's Greatest Hits: How Sweet It Is Fri at 7.30 pm

An Evening of Dirty Dancing: The Tribute Show Sat at 7.30 pm

New Alexandra Theatre.

Sat at 7.30 pm £24.90 New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS Call 0844 871 3011

Wed at 7.30pm, Thur at 2.30pm, 7.30pm

Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

The Wizard of Oz

Call 01785 254653

£9.50/£10.50

Birmingham, B5 4DS Call 0844 871 3011

**THEATRE** 

Thu at 8pm £15.00/ £16.00

Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ Call 01902 401211

# Trembling Bells Wed at 7.30pm - 10.30pm, £10

Kitchen Garden Cafe, King's Heath, Birmingham, B14 7SA. Call 0121 443 4725

Tue at 7.30pm - 11pm, £13 Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

Irish Session Wed at 8pm, Free Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB. Call 01384 374410

Sandpiper Folk Club Night Wed at 7.45pm, Pigot Arms, 11 High Street, Pattingham, Wolverhampton, WV6 7BQ. Call 01902 700207

Common Folk: Singers' Night Thu at 8.30pm, Pelsall Cricket & Sports Club, Walsall Road, Walsall, WS3 4BP Call 01922 682018

**Brewood Acoustic Club** Thu at 8pm, Brewood Cricket Club, Four Ashes Road, Brewood, ST19 9HX. Call 01902 850422

Country Music Nights Sun at 8.15pm, £2 Swan With Two Necks, Longdon, WS15 4PN. Call 01543 491570

### **JAZZ & BLUES**

Jazzlines Free Gigs: Rob Barron

Friday, 5pm Symphony Hall Café Bar B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

### **CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC**

The Big Band Show With Five Star Swing
Sun at 7.30pm, £15 - £16
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.
Call 01527 577330 National Scout And Guide

Symphony Orchestra 40th Anniversary Concert Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm, £8 - £10
Birmingham Conservatoire,
Birmingham City University,
B3 3HG. Call 0121 331 5901

### **OPEN MICS**

Open Mic Tue at 7.30pm. Free The Drum, Aston on Carrant, Birmingham, B6 4UU. Call 0121 333 2400

### Tres Tres Cabaret



Friday, 8pm Gatehouse, Stafford Très Très Cabaret promises to bring you the most extravagant variety show. It features the hottest performers from the international cabaret scene to surprise and delight you.

www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk

### Motown's Greatest Hits



Friday, 7.30pm New Alexandra, B'ham Now in its 13th successive year, this stunning 100 per cent live show combines first class music together with the slickest choreography, and an amazing band. Visit www.atgtickets.com

### COMEDY

Comedy Carousel & Real Food Canteen Thu at 7pm - 11pm, £5 - £19.50 The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Manford's Comedy Club Sat at 7.30pm - 11pm, £12.50 Players Bar Birmingham, B1 2HG. Call 0121 643 6817

### **FESTIVALS**

Family Fun Festival 2015 Fri at 12am - 12am, Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330

### **TALKS**

Beyond The Ballot: A People's History Of Democracy Sat at 5pm, Free mac, Cannon Hill Road,

Freddie Flintoff: 2nd Innings Mon at 7.30pm, £25 - £50 Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

### **ART GALLERIES**

Birmingham's People and Birmingham's People and Change in the Inner-City Sat at 10am - 5pm, Sun at 10am - 5pm, Tue at 10am - 5pm, Tue at 10am - 5pm, Wed at 10am - 5pm, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Free Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, B3 3DH.
Call 0121 303 1966

The Festival Of Quilts Thu at 10am - 5.30pm, £6 - £50 20 - 200 The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Love Is Enough: William Morris And Andy Warhol Fri at 10.30am - 5pm, Sat at 10am -5pm, Sun at 10am - 5pm, Mon at 10am - 5pm, Tue at 10am -5pm, Wed at 10am - 5pm, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Thu at

5pm, wed at 10am - 5pm, 1nu 10am - 5pm, £3 - £17 Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, B3 3DH. Call 0121 303 1966

### Colour, Light, Texture: Portraits By Matthew Smith And Frank Dobson Fri at 10am - 5pm, Sat at 11am -

5pm, Sun at 11am - 5pm, Mon at 10am - 5pm, Tue at 10am - 5pm, Wed at 10am - 5pm, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Free Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham,

Call 0121 414 7333

Small Worlds

Small Worlds Fri at 10am - 5pm, Sat at 10am -5pm, Sun at 12pm - 4pm, Tue at 10am - 5pm, Wed at 10am - 5pm, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Free The New Art Gallery Walsall, WS2 8LG. Call 01922 654400

Animal Architecture
Fri at 10am - 5pm, Sat at 10am 5pm, Mon at 10am - 5pm, Tue at
10am - 5pm, Wed at 10am - 5pm,
Thu at 10am - 5pm,
Free
Wolverhampton Art Gallery,
Wv1 1011 WV1 1DU.

Robert Davies: Of Time And The Railway Fri at 9am - 10pm, Sat at 9am

Call 01902 552055

- 10pm, Sun at 9am - 10pm, Mon at 9am - 10pm, Tue at 9am - 10pm, Wed at 9am - 10pm, Thu at 9am - 10pm, Free mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

### FAMILY EVENTS

**Contemporary Craft Markets** Sun at 11am - 5pm, Free mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

Love Is Enough: Family Friday Fri at 11am - 4pm, Free Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, B3 3DH. Call 0121 303 1966

Mini Museum Wed at 10am - 3pm, £10.50 mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

Show In A Week Musical Theatre Workshops (Ages 6-11) Thu at 10am - 3pm, £10.50 mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 90H. Call 0121 446 3232

Summer Holiday Family Fun Fri at 12am, Sat at 12am, Sun at 12am, Mon at 12am, Tue at 12am, Wed at 12am, Thu at

Cadbury World, Bournville, Birmingham, B30 2LU.
Call 0844 880 7667

Lights, Camera, Action! Summer Holiday Activities
Fri at 10am - 5pm, Sat at 10am - 5pm, Sun at 10am - 5pm, Mon at 10am - 5pm, Tue at 10am - 5pm, Wed at 10am - 5pm, Thu at 10am - 5pm, £7.25 - £45
The Black Country Living
Museum, Dudley, DY1 4SQ. Call 0121 557 9643

Little Friends Baby and Toddler

Group
Fri at 10am - 12pm, £3
The Museum Of Cannock Chase, Hednesford, Cannock, WS12 1TD. Call 01543 877666

Check out full listings in the ticket in Friday's Express & Star

# Blockbuster show at the Hippodrome



One moment in time with Alexandra Burke and the cast of West End hit The Bodyguard

Picture by Paul Coltas

AWARD-WINNING musical The Bodyguard is coming to the Birmingham Hippodrome for a month-long run

from Wednesday.

The show, based on the Hollywood blockbuster that starred Whitney Houston and Kevin Costner, has extended its run until September 5 due to popular demand. X-Factor's Alexandra Burke plays

the leading role, Rachel Marron, in the show that features a host of Whit-ney Houston hits including One Mo-ment in Time, Saving All My Love, I Wanna Dance with Somebody and I Will Always Love You.

Miss Burke took over the lead role from Wolverhampton's Beverley Knight when the show was a success in London's West End, winning Best New Musical at the Whatsonstage

Starring opposite her in the Cost-ner role as Frank Farmer will be Stuart Reid from the West End pro-

Meanwhile, at matinee performances the role of Rachel Marron will be played by Pop Idol finalist Zoe Birkett, who also plays the lead on August 21 and 22 evenings. Tickets cost from £18 to £49.50, on-

line at www.birminghamhippodrome.com or call 0844 338 5000.



# Big Bad role for Blue star

HE became one of the nation's favourite entertainers when he lined up on BBC TV's Strictly Come Dancing last autumn. But Blue singer Simon Webbe will feature in an altogether different role when he takes to the stage at Birmingham Town Hall until Sunday.

He will join stars from the worlds of pop, musical theatre and TV for a brand new family musical that's trotting into Birmingham before heading to London's West End.

Simon will huff and puff his way to the Town Hall for a new production of Stiles and Drewes' The 3 Little Pigs.

Simon is looking forward to the show because he has solid links with Birmingham, having gone to St Andrew's primary and Holy Trinity secondary school in Small Heath. He made his first ever stage performance at the Town Hall in a play called Days Of Our Childhood, and his is returning to the venue where it all started as the Big Bad Wolf in 3 Little Pigs.

called Days Of Our Childhood, and his is returning to the venue where it all started as the Big Bad Wolf in 3 Little Pigs. He said: "I've been burning the candle at both ends. It's been a busy year with the Strictly tour, with the release of Blue's new album and now this. Strictly was massive and it was a great tour. The last time I did an arena tour was with The Big Reunion. To witness those big crowds and to be a part of that was amazing. To get that standing ovation every night was an amazing feeling."

But right now he's looking forward to treading the boards in 3 Little Pigs. "Everybody knows the story. This is the first time it's been brought alive by music and lyrics. The first read through I was in stitches. It's not taking it too seriously."

### Top dramas coming to Midland stages

MAJOR dramas are coming to the West Midlands.

Birmingham Repertory Theatre leads the way with a bold look at our future monarch when Robert Powell plays King Charles III in Mike Bartlett's Olivier Award winning play in September. In October Meera Syal's novel Anita And Me, about an Asian girl growing up in a Stafnovel Anita And Me, about an Asian girl growing up in a Staffordshire village, gets its stage debut with Mandeep Dhillon (from TV comedy Some Girls) in the lead role. Call 0121 236 4455.

The National Theatre's production of JB Priestly classic An Inspector Calls, directed by Billy Elliot's Stephen Daldry, is at Wolverhampton Grand in early February. Call 01902 429212.

### Comedy and shows for children at halls

COMEDIANS and children's TV are among the line-up of at-tractions at Dudley and Stour-bridge town halls this autumn. At Dudley the season kicks off

with pun-spinning comic Milton Jones on October 2. Veteran comedian Duggie Brown presents a matinee Good Old Days of Va-

a matinee Good Old Days of Variety show on October 13.
Superslam American Wrestling returns on October 29.
At Stourbridge Town Hall children's shows include Tree Fu Tom on September 26, Sid Sloane from cheebies in Sid's Show on October 27 and a version of Julia Donaldson's The Scarecrows' Wedding on November 21. Call (01384) 812812.

### **BGT** opera singer in concert line-up

FIRST winner of Britain's Got Talent, opera singer Paul Potts, will be at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre as part of a line-up of new concerts with tickets on sale tomorrow (Friday).

The Port Talbot tenor will be

The Port Talbot tenor will be in concert at the Lichfield Street venue with soprano Catriona Murray on Friday, October 16. Strictly Come Dancing pro 16. Strictly Come Dancing probrendan Cole returns by popular demand with A Night To Remember on Friday, January 29. The nation's favourite Nancy, Jodie Prenger, stars in Andrew Lloyd Webber and Don Black's Tell Me On A Sunday on June 2, 2016. See grandtheatre.co.uk or call 01902 429212.





9.30am, 11.00am, 1.30pm & 3.00pm (Please book in advance)

SCARECROW DAY

30 August, 11am - 4pm

Please see website for more details

www.forgemill.org.uk



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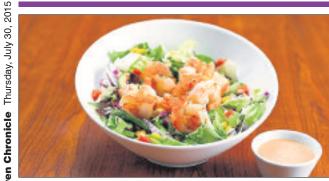




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Halesowen Chronicle

# eating out











Menu features all classics including, of course, burgers

# When it comes to burgers I left my heart back in San Francisco

and sinking my teeth into their incredible cheeseburgers at an In-N-Out Burger is a moment I'll always sayour.

And it was that memory I wished to recreate when I ordered the cheeseburger at Coast To Coast, an all-American diner bang in Birmingham's Broad Street.

It was our first visit to the restaurant and, on a drab Sunday afternoon, it was nice to be warmly welcomed by a friendly American waitress. For a moment at least, it felt like we were back in sunny California. We were directed to a booth, given menus

and our drinks orders taken.

Coast To Coast has a huge dining area and they've pulled off the American sports bar feel with aplomb. There's a Cheersstyle bar area, strategically placed screens

By Emily Bridgewater

showing Eurosport, and Aerosmith's Dude (Looks Like a Lady) blaring from the speakers. After a bit of a wait our drinks arrived and the waitress took our order. The menu features all-American classics from burgers and ribs to milkshakes.

I fancied the calamari to start but the other half insisted we go native and order the barbecue sharing board. At £16.95 it's not cheap so we expected a top-notch plat-ter and what we got wasn't half bad.

ter and what we got wasn't half bad.

The Boston prawns were enormous lobster-esque sized shellfish in a light batter.
They were delish, particularly dipped in the
Cajun spiced mayo, and I happily polished
off the lot leaving the other half to make
light work of the barbecue chicken wings.

"Plenty of meat on these," he said, appreciatively. The blue cheese chicken tenders

Fingers were licked, empties were cleared and we waited just long enough for our main courses. My heart sank at the sight of my cheeseburger. I was expecting a meal straight out of Diners, Drive-in and Dives, or Man v Food; I wanted something epic.

### Overpriced

Plated simply, it came with no garnish other than a silver bucket of sweet potato fries and a pot of spicy ketchup dip. The burger itself looked a bit sad; the patty didn't fill the width of the bun making it look smaller and more shrivelled than it was. However, it tasted pretty good – not £11.95 worth and certainly not in the same league as In-N-Out Burger.
Sadly, the white-coloured cheese didn't

really add much. The accompanying sweet

potato fries were spot on. Misser Limby ran-cied a couple of different burgers so opted for the trio of sliders with regular fries. He said all the burgers were 'OK' without going overboard, also mentioning that – because of their size – the buns were a touch dry and over-toasted. At £13.95 we felt again it was we ordered a dessert to share – the chocolate brownie with Chantilly cream and honeycomb ice cream. The dish fell short of

noneycomb ice cream. The dish fell snort of the mark. Rather than the crumbly, gooey, indulgent brownie we'd expected, it was more of a microwaved sponge drenched in artificial 'chocolate-flavour' sauce. We left half and settled the bill, which

came to £57 including three soft drinks.

We felt let down by the food; the prices were too high for average-quality fare.
Sadly, for me at least, when it comes to burgers, I've left my heart in San Francisco.

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### CHOICE



Sunetra Sarker (right)

### (BBC1, 9.10pm)

When a dad is given an ultimatum - move away with work or lose his job Charlie helps him do the right thing for his daughter. A son attempts to break off engagement to a younger fiancée and lands her in the Emergency Department, but Max is on hand to convince him to respect his father's decision. Meanwhile, Honey's plans to impress Ethan are ruined when Lily continues to pursue him, and Max and Zoe decide not to break the news of their engagement but it soon gets out. William Sunetra Sarker, George Rainsford, Chelsee Healey Amanda Mealing and Derek Thompson star

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 The Box. (R) 12.00 BBC Live. 11.30 The Box. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. 2.45 Live Women's FA Cup Football. Chelsea Ladies v Notts County Ladies (Kick-off 3.00pm). 5.20 Pointless Celebrities. (R)

- 6.15 Regional Programme
- 6.25 Film: Raiders of the Lost Ark. (1981) Archaeologist Indiana Jones tries to locate the Ark of the Covenant before the Nazis get their hands on it. Steven Spielberg's action adventure, with Harrison Ford and Karen Allen.
- Karen Allen.

  8.15 The National Lottery: Five Star Family Reunion. A UK family and their long-lost overseas relatives must work together and answer questions to win a once-in-a-lifetime reunion in a five-star
- 9.10 Casualty. When a dad is given an Casualty. When a dad is given an ultimatum – move away with work or lose his job – Charlie helps him do the right thing for his daughter. A son attempts to break off his father's recent engagement to a younger flancée and lands her in the Emergency Department, but Max is on hand to convince him to respect his father's decision. Meanwhile, Honey's plans to impress Ethan are ruined when Lily conflueus to pursue him, and Max and Zoe decide not to break the news of their enadagement – the news of their engagement but it soon gets out
- 10.00 BBC News; Weather; National
- Lottery Update.

  10.20 Mrs Brown's Boys. Agnes goes on a diet after her family's comments about her weight, but soon realises how difficult it will be to lay off the fish and chips. (1)

  10.50 Not Going Out. Lee spends time in the bar with Toby worrying that the woman of his dreams is drifting farther away. Comedy, starring Lee Mack and Hugh Dennis. (R)

  11.20 Film: Tronic Thunder. (2008) The
- Dennis. (R)

  11.20 Film: Tropic Thunder. (2008) The cast of a Vietnam War movie unknowingly wanders into the middle of a real-life conflict. Comedy, directed by and starring Ben Stiller, with Jack Black and Robert Downey Jr.
- 1.00 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.05

6.25 Film: Tintin and the Mystery of the Golden Fleece. (1961) 8.05 Film: The Golden Fleece. (1961) 8.05 Film: The Maggie, (1954) 9.35 Film: The Master of Ballantrae. (1953) 11.00 Animal Park. (R) 11.30 The Women's Football Show. 12.00 Escape to the Continent 1.00 Athletics. 2.00 Golf: Women's British Open. Coverage of the third day at Trump Turnberry in South Ayrshire.

- 6.00 Cycling: Women's Grand Prix.
  Action from the RideLondon
  Grand Prix in central London,
  which saw a field of elite riders wnich saw a held of eitle riders compete on a looping 1.3-mile circuit around St James's Park. Great Britain's Laura Trott won the inaugural staging of this race in 2013, while Italy's Giorgia Bronzini claimed a thrilling victory last year courtesy of a sprint finish for the line.
- 7.00 Proms Extra. Katie Derham looks 7.00 Proms Extra. Asia Dernam looks at the past week of the proms, including Holst's The Planets and Mozart's last-ever symphony. Plus, percussionist Colin Currie performs exclusively in the studio.

  7.40 Edwardian Farm. Alex Langlands and Peter Ginn set sail on a fishing trip, steering a wind-powered
- vessel, casting a net and
- vessel, casting a net and mastering sea shantles. Meanwhile. Ruth Goodman holds a seance. (R)

  8.40 Dad's Army. The men head off for a weekend at a training camp, but arrive late and hungry after Mainwaring's map-reading skills are found to be somewhat lacking. Comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. (R)
- 9.10 First Light. Docu-drama based on the personal memoirs of Geoffrey Wellum, a young RAF pilot who fought in the Battle of Britain in 1940 with the legendary 92 Squadron. His experiences in combat serve as intense rites of passage, but as time goes by it becomes clear that the price of victory can often be an unbearable loss. Starring Sam Heughan. (R)
- 10.30 Mock the Week. Dara O Briain presents a special compilation show featuring previously unbroadcast material, out-takes and favourite bits from the recent series of the satirical comedy quiz. (R)
- 11.00 Film: III Manors. (2012) Premiere. Drama, with Riz Ahmed, Nick Sagar and Keith Coggins. 12.55 Film: The Quatermass Xperiment. (1955) 2.15 This Is BBC Two.

- 6.00 CITV- The Aquabats! Super Show!
  6.25 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan. (R)
  6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Camimsto.
  7.15 Sooty. (R) 7.30 Super 4. (R) 7.45
  FSH Hooks. 8.00 Young Justice winds 25
  FSH Hooks. 8.00 Yellow Justice Winds 25
  FSH Hooks. 8.00 Yellow Justice Winds 25
  FSH Jus

- TIV News; Weather.
   Film: Mamma Mia! (2008) A former member of a singing trio, now running a hotel on a Greek island, is reunited with her old bandmates for her daughter's bandmates for her daughter's wedding – but is surprised when three of her old flames also show up unexpectedly. The three men have been invited by the bride, who wants to find out which one of them is her father. Musical comedy, with a soundtrack of Abba songs, starring Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan, Julie Walters, Colin Firth, Stellan Skarsgard and Amanda Seyfried.
- 8.30 The Cube: Celebrity Special.
  Comedian Katherine Ryan and
  retired footballer Fabrice Muamba
  take on The Cube in an attempt to
  win a £250,000 jackpot for charity.
- win a £250,000 jackpot for charity.

  9.35 The Nation's Favourite Queen
  Song, The stories behind the
  legendary rock bands 20 green this, as decided by the public. This
  countdown, narrated by Matt
  Lucas, features in-depth in the stories brian May
  and Roger Taylor, celebrity fans
  including Katy Perry, Tony Hadley,
  Tom Fletcher, Moddy Holder and
  the word of the stories of the storie
- 11.00 ITV News; Weather. 11.011 News; weather:
  11.15 The Chase. Bradley Walsh presents as four contestants answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on ruthless quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize. (R)
- 12.15 Jackpot247. 3.00 Ejector Seat. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen.

### **CHANNEL 4**

- C.20 How I Met Your Mother. 6.45
  Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.05
  Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.30
  The Grid. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00
  Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The
  Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory.
  (R) 11.00 The Simpsons. (R) 10.00 The
  Simpsons. (R) 12.00 The
  Simpsons. (R) 10.00 The
  Simpson
- 6.15 Come Dine with Me. The final dinner party in Suffolk is hosted by anti-social behaviour officer Rachel, who hopes to win over her guests with an evening of comfort food and a few tricks up her sleeve. (R)
- 6.40 Channel 4 News.
- 6.40 Channel 4 News.
  7.00 Homes by the Sea. Architectural designer Charlie Luxton explores properties on the Kent and Sussex coasts, beginning at a home inspired by the seafront properties of Australia in Camber Sands. He also visits a home made from a converted railway carriage in Dungeness, a Martello tower in Dymchurch, and two properties in Dymchurch, and two properties in the town of Brighton.
- 8.00 Walking Through History: Nazi Occupation Channel Islands. Tony Robinson heads to Guernsey and Jersey to tell the story of the islands' surrender to Nazi Germany during the Second World War. (R)
- War. (t)

  9.00 Film: The Inbetweeners Movie.
  (2011) Awkward teenagers Simon,
  Will, Jay and Neil plan a holiday to
  the Greek island of Crete after they
  finish their exams, hoping to
  experience drink, sex and debauchery beyond their wildest dreams. However, things do not quite work out as planned. Comedy based on the TV series, with Joe Thomas, Simon Bird, James Buckley and Blake Harrison
- Buckley and Blake Harrisson.

  11.00 Film: This Means War. (2012)

  Two secret agents fall in love with
  the same woman and use their
  talents to sabotage each other's
  chances of romance. Comedy,
  with Reses Witherspoon.

  12.50 The Last Leg. (R) 1.45 Hollyoaks.
  (R) 3.55 Double Your House for Half the
- Money. (R) 4.55 You Deserve This House. (R)

### **CHANNEL 5**

- 6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.35 Cowboy Builders. (R) 11.35 Cowboy Builders. (R) 12.30 Cowboy Builders. (R) 1.30 Film: Columbo: The Greenhouse Jungle. (1972) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk. 3.00 The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies. (R) 4.00 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **5.00** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R)
- 6.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. An Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. An insight into the world of debt collection from the perspectives of people who owe money, their creditors and those who collect the payments. High court eviction officer Kevin Stokes faces a physical assault, while Paul Bohill and his team deal with a difficult case involving a mother and daughter who are about to be left out on the street with nowhere to go. Last in the series. (R)
- 7.00 Cricket on 5. England v Australia. Highlights of the fourth day's play in the Third Ashes Test at Edgbaston. Presented by Mark

### Nicholas. 7.55 5 News Weekend.

- 7.30 o News Weekend.
  8.00 Transporter: The Series. Frank is hired to transport a stolen human heart for a crime kingpin seeking a suitable donor for his terminally ill son. But he is is forced to weigh the worth of a human life when he
- suitable donor for his terminally ill son. But he is is forced to weigh the worth of a human life when he finds out that the heart was intended for a dying boy in hospital. Previously seen on Spike.

  9.00 Tut. Part one of two. Historical epic chronicling pharaoh Tutankhamun's efforts to rule over his chaotic empire. With Egypt controlled by his advisor by, army leader General Horemheb and double-dealing high priest Amun, the 19-year-old king is eager to get to know the people whom he will soon be ruling. He sneaks out to Thebes, where he comes to the rescue of beautiful village girl shaming to fright the troublesome Mitamin. Starring Awan Jogia, Ben Kingsley and Kylie Bunbury.

  11.35 Criminals: Caught no Camera.
- Ringsley and kylle Bunbury.

  11.35 Criminals: Caught no Camera.
  Police officers use CCTV to
  monitor Sohos 100,000 nightly
  visitors, while the air support unit
  is called in when an armed gang
  goes on the rampage through
  Lambeth. (R)
- 12.10 SuperCasino. 3.10 Police Interceptors. (R) 4.50 Make It Big. (R) 5.45 Angels of Jarm. (R)

### **DIGITAL**

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 7.15 Don't
Tell the Bride 8.15 Film: Little Fockers
(2010) 9.45 Russell Howard's Good
News Extra 11.15 Family Guy 1.30
People Just Do Nothing 2.00 Some Girls
3.30 Young, Welsh and Pretty Skint 4.00
Close

7.00 Natural World: The Real Jungle Book Bear 8.00 Horizon: The Secret Life of the Cat 9.00 The Young Montalbano 11.00 Secret Voices of Hollywood 12.30 Sings Musicals 1.30 Horizon: The Secret Life of the Cat 2.30 Natural World: The Real Jungle Book Bear 3.30 Close

11.05 Take Me Out 12.05 Catchphrase 12.50 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 1.20 Film: Beethoven (1991) 3.05 Film: Scooby-Doo (2002) 4.50 Film: The Mummy (1999) 7.10 Film: Johnny English (2003) 9.00 Film: Troy (2004) 12.10 Film: Bomy and Michele's High School Reunion (1997) 2.00 Fake Reaction 2.35 Teleshopping 5.35 ITV2 Nightscreen

11.40 Agatha Christie's Marple 1.45 Wycliffe 2.55 Agatha Christie's Marple 5.00 Film: Columbo: Identity Crisis (1975) 7.00 Doc Martin 8.00 Lewis 10.00 Agatha Christie's Marple 12.00 Wire in the Blood 1.30 Rising Damp 1.55 Movies Now 2.05 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

11.00 Pawn Stars 1.15 Film: No Name on the Bullet (1959) 2.50 Film: Field of Dreams (1989) 5.00 Storage Wars 6.00 Storage Wars: New York 7.00 Storage Wars: New York 7.00 Storage Wars: Evas 8.00 Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) 9.50 Film: US Marshals (1998) 12.25 Film: Widnight Run (1988) 2.35 Hogan's Heroes 3.00 Teleshononina

11.30 Melissa & Joey 12.30 The Goldbergs 1.30 How I Met Your Mother 2.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 3.00 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: The Adjustment Bureau (2011) 11.05 Gogglebox 12.40 Rude Tube: Ultimate Stunts 1.45 Virtually Famous 2.30 How I Met Your Mother 3.15 Rules of Engagement 4.05 The Cleveland Show 4.25 Baby Daddy

1.00 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992) 3.20 Napoleon Dynamite (2004) 5.10 Marmaduke (2010) 6.50 Mission: Impossible (1996) 9.00 Chronicle (2012) 10.40 Dredd (2012) 12.30 Shutter (2008) 2.10 Strange Wilderness (2008)



# Rex Johnson & Sons



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### **CHOICE**



### **Partners in Crime** (BBC1, 9nm)

searches the backrooms of Brown's shadowy hideout for any sign of Jane, but discovers he will need to raise £1,000 to maintain his place in the gang. Tuppence goes undercover as Rita's maid, and discovers that she has received a mysterious package from Brown. The parcel is kept locked up and out of sight, but Tuppence is determined to find out what it contains. She also discovers that one of the diva's friends is an agent working for Carter, who continues to obstruct the couple's investigation. David Walliams, Jessica Raine, James Fleet, Alice Krige, Matthew Steer, Clarke Peters, Paul Brennen and Madeline Appiah star.

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 BBC News. 10.00 Sunday Morning Live. 11.00 Homes Sunday Morning Live. 11.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 12.00 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Songs of Praise. 1.50 Nigel Slater: Eating Together. (R) 2.20 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.05 Cycling: Ride

Regional Programme

7.00 Countryfile. A special edition devoted to sheep, in which Joe Crowley travels to an upland farm in the Yorkshire Dales where he helps out with the shearing, and visits a dairy in Thirsk producing feta cheese from ewe's milk. Anita Pani investicates the mutton. Rani investigates the mutton market in Hereford and meets an artisan felt worker in Wales, and Tom Heap looks into the falling prices of lambs. Plus, Adam Henson reports on the breaking up of a herd of fell ponies. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 Fake or Fortune? Fiona Bruce and art expert Philip Mould investigate the complex and controversial stories surrounding the origins of supposedly valuable works of art supposedly valuable works of art from around the world, discovering how to identify the handiwork of master forgers and revealing the bitter battles that occur in the seemingly genteel art world. (R)

Partners in Crime. Part two of three. Tommy searches the backrooms of Brown's shadowy backrooms of Brown's shadowy hideout for any sign of Jane, but discovers he will need to raise £1,000 to maintain his place in the gang. Tuppence goes undercover as Ritas maid, and discovers that she has received a mysterious package from Brown. The parcel is kept Tocked up and out of sight, but Tuppence is determined to find out what it contains. She also discovers that one of the diva's friends is an agent working for Carter, who continues to obstruct the couple's investigation. the couple's investigation.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme. 10.30 Match of the Day: Community Shield Highlights. Chelsea v Arsenal. Action from the curtainraiser to the English top-flight

11.15 Don't Tell the Bride. (R) 12.15 Weather for the Week Ahead. 12.20 BBC News.

### RRC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. 6.15 Big Dreams Small Spaces. (R) 7.15 The Instant Small Spaces. (R) 7.15 The Instant Gardener (R) 8.00 Countryllie, (R) 9.00 Gardeners' World. (R) 9.30 The Beechgrove Garden. 10.00 Cycling: RideLondon. 10.30 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 12.00 The Box. (R) 12.30 The Box. (R) 1.00 Alex Poliziz: Chefs on Trial. (R) 2.00 Golf: Women's British Open.

(R) 2.00 Golf: Women's British Open.
6.00 Hair. The six remaining contestants create a fantasy style in the freestyle challenge, before three have to tackle the technique of spiral curls in the Eliminator. (R)
6.30 Hair. The five quarter-finalists create scary styles for London Dungeon saff, before coming up with a design for the launch of a new character. (R)

Locomotion: Dan Snow's History of Railways. The historian and or Natinus. The instrontan and broadcaster examines the impact the railway had on London in the late 1830s, marking the start of a truly national network. (R)

8.00 Dragons' Den. The entrepreneurs cat their eyes over an explogist's

cast their eyes over an ecologist's germ-fighting gadget and a business making crisps, while another contestant clashes with the dragons.

the dragons.

9.00 Odyssey. Odelle tries to get a message to a reporter, but it is intercepted by Majors. Peter recruits two hackers, Harrison is arrested, and Ron starts to suspect his wife is alive.

The Javone Prince Show. Javone presents more comedy sketches and stand-up, featuring a street magician and poet-in-residence Dr

10.15 Family Guy. Brian and Peter go on a mission to find a new Thanksgiving turkey.

10.35 Family Guy. Lois tires of Peter's disappointing performances in the 10.55 Family Guy. Three traditional fairy tales – Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood and Cinderella – are given a Quahog spin on the original stories.

11.20 Film: Dead Poets Society. (1989) A teacher at a staid New England school in the 1950s raises eyebrows by encouraging his pupils to live life beyond their expectations. Drama, with Robin Williams and Ethan Hawke.

1.20 Film: X the Unknown. (1956) 2.40 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) 3.35 Holby City. (R) 4.35 This Is BBC Two.

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats | Super Showl 6.25 pat 8. Stan. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan. (R) 6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Calminats. (R) 7.15 Sooty (R) 7.30 Super 4. (R) 7.45 Fish Hooks. 8.00 Young Justev (R) 7.45 Fish Hooks. 8.00 Young Justev (R) 8.25 Th V News. 8.30 Weekend. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.55 TIV News; Weather. 12.35 Love Your Garden. (R) 1.35 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. (R) 2.35 The Unforgettable Joan Sims. (R) 3.05 The Chase. (R) 4.05 Film: The Man in the Iron Mask. (1998) Swashbuckling

Iron Mask. (1998) Swashbuckling adventure, starring Leonardo DiCaprio. 6.35 Regional Programme; Weather. 6.45 ITV News: Weather

7.00 Nature Nuts with Julian Clary. New series. The comedian meets New series. The comedian meets wildlife devotees around Britain, and enlists the help of a nature documentary crew to help them record footage of their favourite animals. In the first episode, Julian meets a woman who takes care of meets a woman who takes care of thousands of injured hedgehogs and helps her check up on a former patient, uses cameras that can see by moonlight to observe an elusive family of badgers, and meets two "otter spotters".

an elusive amunity of badgusts, and meets two "otter spotters".

8.00 Midsomer Murders. Return of the long-running mystery dama, starring Neil Dudgeon and Gwilym Lee. At the Luxton Deeping Crime Festival, the unveiling of a newly discovered novel by deceased Midsomer crime writer George Summersbee is jeopardised when the manuscript is stolen and local artist Suzie Colebrooke trapped return cutelled. Can new father before the control of t

10.20 Brits Behind Bars. With thousands of UK citizens currently held in jalls around the world, this documentary focuses on the moving cases of British overseas prisoners, (R)

prisoners. Vite Stories:

Michael Flatley. The creator of Riverdance and Lord of the Dance joins Piers for a frank interview reflecting on his life and career, and his reputation as an egomaniac. (R)

12.15 Jackpot247. 3.00 Motorsport UK.

### **CHANNEL 4**

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 6.40 Everybody Loves Baymond (R) 7 05 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.05 Caterham Motorsport. 7.30 National Paralympic Day. 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) 1.30 The Simpsons. (R) 2.00 The Simpsons. (R) 2.30 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R) 4.35 Location, Location. (R) 4.35 A Place in the Sun. Home or Away. 5.40 Channel A lowes. 6.00 Film: The Three Musketeers. (2011) A both-headed swortsman.

(2011) A hot-headed swordsman sets off to join the King of France' royal guard, and falls in with a tric of former members who have fallen into disgrace. They join rallen into disgrace. They join forces to defeat a plot to overthrow the king by an English lord who has built a deadly airship. Swashbuckling adventure, with Logan Lerman, Milla Jovovich, Matthew Macdadyen, Ray Stevenson and Luke Evans.

8.00 Experimental, Buddy Munro goes Experimental. Buddy Munro goes flying off a ramp using an engine-powered glider, and also uses jet propulsion to ski uphill on a trip to the Czech Republic's Krkonose Mountains. Tim Shaw checks out videos of people trying to do the splits in mid-air and finds out what the claes to the human bedy and this does to the human body, and tries out various gadgets to build a

tries out various gadgets to build a working hoverboard. Humans. The flugitive synths are held prisoner in flobb's facility, as he tries to extract the secrets of creating living artificial intelligence that have been programmed into their brains. However, he discovers a vital piece of the puzzle is still missing – and not even Lo knows where it can be found. Laura and her devastated family come to realise how much Mia means to them, and resolve to rescue her and her friends from a life of captivity. Conclusion of the sci-fi drama, starring Gemma Chan and Katherine Parkinson. Last in the series

10 008 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown 38 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown Sean Lock teams up with Andrew Flintoff to compete against guest captain Bill Bailey and team-mate Roisin Conaty in the comedy pane quiz show mash-up. Presented by Jimmy Carr. (R)

11.05 Film: The Guard. (2011) 12.55 Channel 4 Comedy Gala 2015: Best Bits. (R) 1.45 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.05 Double Your House for Half the Money. (R)

### **CHANNEL 5**

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. 6.05
Bananas in Pyjamas (R) 6 20 And Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) 6.20 Angelina Ballerina. (R) 6.30 Pijn Ahovi (R) 6.45 The Mr Men Show. (R) 6.55 Milkshakel Monkey. (R), 7.00 Chiloe's Closet. (R) 7.10 Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) 7.20 Make Way for Noddy. (R) 7.35 Paw Patrol. 7.45 Little Princess. (R) 8.00 Wanda and the Alien. (R) 8.10 Zack and Ouack. 8.25 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) 8.35. Jelly Jamm. (R) 8.50 Lazy Town. (R) 9.15 Dora and Friends. (R) 9.45 Teenage Mutant Minja Turtles. (R) 10.20 Access. 10.25 Police Interceptors. (R) 11.20 Police (1) 9-43 leetage whom a fluid number (1) 19-30 leetage whom a fluid number (1) 19-10 leeta interceptors. (R) 11.20 Police interceptors. (R) 12.15 Police interceptors. (R) 12.15 Police interceptors. (R) 12.15 Police interceptors. (R) 15-10 Fluim 19-40 leeta 1

### 7 55 5 News Weekend

at Edghaston.

5 News Weekend.

Police Interceptors Unleashed.
Police Interceptors Unleashed.
Police Interceptors Unleashed.
Police Interceptors attempts to bring order to chaos when an argument turns aggressive, and the interceptors are forced to use strong-arm tactics to bring a football hooligan under control. Elsewhere, an encounter with the police leaves a shoplitter speechless, and a drink-driver puts other people in a potentially explosive situation. Previously seen on Spike.

Tutl. Conclusion of the two-part historical epic. Tut's rule is threatened when a mysterious illness sweeps the kingdom, leaving him with no army to fight of the Mitanni. He opts to lead a small force of soldiers to infiltrate the enemer stronbolig dam by the enemer stronbolig dam

small force of soldiers to infiltrate the enemy stronghold and bring them down from within, but while he is leading the raid, a new conflict erupts in his homeland.

11.35 Secrets of the Egyptian Pyramids.
Steve Burrows leads a team
investigating some of the world's greatest engineering achievements, beginning with four different ancient Egyptian pyramids. (R)

12.35 Criminals: Caught on Camera. (R) 1.05 SuperCasino. 3.10 Under the Dome. (R) 4.00 House Doctor. (R)

**CHRONICLE** 

### **DIGITAL**

BBC Three
7.00 Don't Tell the Bride 8.00 Film:
Streetdance (2010) 9.30 Top Gear: Polar Challenge 10.35 Live at the Apolio 11.20 Family Guy 12.05 American Dadi 12.25 Family Guy 12.05 American Dadi 12.25 Family Guy 12.50 People Just Do Nothing 1.20 The Unbreakables: Life above on Disability Campus 2.15 The Boy Who Wants His Leg Cut Off 3.15 People Just Do Nothing 3.45 Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D 4.00 Close
RBC Four

### BBC Four

7.00 BBC Proms Sunday Symphony 8.15 Wild Scotland 8.30 Brushing Up On – wiid Scotland 8.30 Brushing Up On— British Bridges 9.00 The Modern Age of The Coach 10.00 Timeshift: Magnificent Machines – The Golden Age of the British Sports Car 11.00 Sound of Song 2.00 Secret Voices of Hollywood 3.30 Close

1102 The Hot Desk: Ella Eyre 1.20 Film: Dragonheart (1996) 3.25 Film: Beethoven's 2nd (1993) 5.10 Film: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (2004) 7.00 Film: Nanny McPhee (2005) 9.00 Film: The Shawshank Redemption (1994) 11.50 Safeword 12.35 Fake Reaction 1.15 Totally Bonkers Guinness rds 2.15 Teleshopping 5.45 World Records 2 ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.45 Film: Columbo: Identity Crisis
(1975) 1.50 Film: Mutiny on the Buses
(1972) 3.40 Goodnight Mister Tom 5.40
Inspector Morse 8.00 Film: Finding
Neverland (2004) 10.10 Birds of a
Feather 10.35 Northern Lights 11.40
Film: Clockwise (1986) 1.35 Blue Murdel 3.15 ITV3 Nightscreen 3.40 Emmerdale

ITV4
11.10 Pawn Stars 1.35 Film: Field of Dreams (1989) 3.40 Film: No Name on the Bullet (1959) 5.20 Film: Ice Cold it Alex (1958) 8.00 The Chase Celebrity Special 9.00 Film: Assassins (1995) 11.45 Film: The Wild Bunch (1969) 2.30 Hogan's Heroes 3.00 Teleshopping

E4
2.30 Couples Come Dine with Me 2.35
The Big Bang Theory 4.30 The Big Bang
Theory 4.57 Fop 20.5.30 The Big Bang
Theory 6.55 Film: Mirror Mirror (2012)
9.00 Rude Tube 10.00 Gogglebox 11.40
Film: From Dusk Till Dawn (1996) 1.55
Tattoo Fixers 2.50 The Cleveland Show
3.10 Baby Daddy 3.35 Hollyoaks

1.00 Bride Wars (2009) 2.40 The Simpsons Movie (2007) **4.25** The Golden Compass (2007) **6.35** Mission: Impossible 2 (2000) **9.00** Men in Black II (2002) **10.45** Kick-Ass (2010) **1.00** (2002) **10.45** Kick-Áss (2010) **1.00** Happy-Go-Lucky (2008) **3.25** Close

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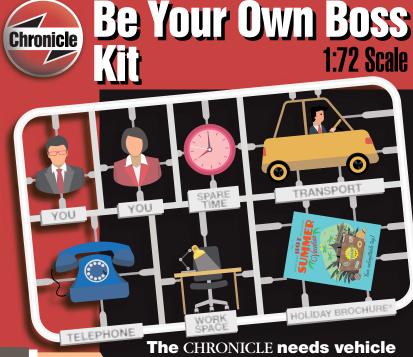
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### **FILM CHOICES**

### MONDAY

Profile for Murder, Channel 5, 3.15pm A criminal profiler retires to live in California with her family and move on from the horrific crime that ended her career. Her idyllic life is shattered when she discovers the serial killer responsible has escaped from prison and is intent on terrorising her. Thriller, starring Nicki Aycox and Steve Bacic. (2013)

Then She Found Me, BBC1, 11.35pm

A New York teacher faces a mid-life crisis after her husband leaves her and her adoptive mother dies. To confuse matters further, she embarks on a relationship with the father of one of her students at the same time as her birth mother. Comedy drama.

### WEDNESDAY

Mona Lisa Smile, Channel 4, 2,30am

A conservative 1950s girls' school receives an unconventional addition to its teaching staff in the form of a free-spirited, bohemian art historian. Unfortunately, her fellow teachers frown on her newfangled ideas, while most of the students have no greater ambition in life than landing a rich husband. Drama, starring Julia Roberts, (2003)



### **THURSDAY**

Gracie's Choice, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A caring teenager has looked after her younger brothers and sister all their lives, while their violent, alcoholic mother is unable to cope. When their parent's self-destructive behaviour goes too far, she campaigns to legally adopt her siblings, while also striving to complete her education. Fact-based drama, starring Kristen Bell. (2004)

Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, BBC1, 11.15pm An idealistic but obsessive scientist builds a living creature from the body parts of corpses, then abandons his creation to its fate. However, the monster survives, and tracks his creator down to make a sinister request. Gothic horror, directed by and starring Kenneth Branagh. (1994)

## **Drastic action to save** artificial intelligence

adgets. We love them, don't we? From the humble can opener to something as hi-tech as a top-of-the-range mobile phone or tablet device, all our lives have been touched in some way by innovations.

Gadgets exist to make things easier, to allow us more leisure time than ever before and take away the stress or discomfort of annoying jobs.

A synthetic being resembling a human who can do all the tasks we can, but never complains or gets tired, is surely the ultimate tool. In Humans, we have seen them at work, but also learnt that not all of them are what they

The drama has proved to be compelling stuff. Based on a Swedish TV series, it is set in a parallel universe one that looks very much like our own, but with these synthetic people – or synths, as they are known – lending a hand.

At the centre of the story is Anita, a beautiful android who is not quite as

She's played by Gemma Chan, the programme's breakout star.

"I was attracted to playing Anita because I like a challenge," says the actress. "She is a very complex multi-

"I read the scripts and loved them Reading the first three, I just wanted Reading the first three, I just wanted to read more. I hadn't read anything like it and I'd never seen the subject of artificial intelligence approached in this way before. So that for me was really refreshing and it raised a lot of questions and lots of interesting

Playing a glorified robot had its difficulties, including learning how to

"We have had a brilliant movement director called Dan O'Neill who has guided us from the starf, explains Gemma. "Before we started filming we did a few weeks or what we called "Synth School." He really wanted a uniform language of movement for the synths to have, so every actor who played a synth had to go through it.

"Synths are basically machines and everything that they do is going to use up energy or battery power, so everything they do has to have an economy. As an actor, it was about finding ways to do things that are actually very counter intuitive to how we would traditionally do things: so it was really learning all the basics, how to stand up, sit down, walk, turn a corner."

Starti up, sit down, walk, turn a corner. She addis: "The things that sound so easy but actually you have to really pare back your physicality and do it in the most economic way. It's really hard actually when you realise how many physical ticks you have and you have to kind of strip those back."

But, as regular viewers will already know, Anita isn't quite what she seems. Trapped inside her body is Mia, who has the human capability to feel emotions

The final episode of the series sees Laura and the rest of the Hawkins family realise how much Mia means to them before putting their own lives on the line to save her and the rest of the 'human' synths from Hobbs.

Will they succeed, or is another twist in the tale – and, perhaps, a second series, on the horizon? Only time will tell.



Katherine Parkinson stars in Humans, Sunday, Channel 4, 9pm

# **BEST OF THE REST**

### MONDAY

Britain at the Bookies BBC1, 9pm

Is Britain going to the dogs? Well if you take the question literally, the answer is probably 'not as much as we used to'. Takings are down for independent Romford greyhound bookie Doug Tyler, whose family have been in the business for over 60 years, as more and more of his punters now bet online and on other sports like football. Meanwhile, in Slough, betting giant Coral is opening a new shop. Although the 30 shops closed last year, Coral plans to open 40 new ones in locations that promise to be more profitable. But their expansion plans aren't without their critics, and as they try to open a new branch in Hayes, Middlesex, near a YMCA, local opposition rallies against the plan. Also, as political pressure about the dangers of gambling addiction mount, the last episode explores how we arrived at our 24/7 betting culture, and what the future holds.

### Travel Guides

ITV, 9pm New series. Members of five British households review popular holiday destinations, giving their opinions on everything from the accommodation to the food and activities, with the first edition featuring

their views on Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. Burnley bar owner Linda and her painter husband Pete find not only the hotels but their prices 'out of this world, model Riah can't understand why Arabic women have to cover up, and hairdressers Craig and Stuart Chapman Blackwell are uncomfortable about travelling to a country where it's illegal to be gay. Johnny Vegas narrates.

### TUESDAY BBC1, 9pm

New series. Part one of two. As the detective drama returns. Gerry is spooked by the discovery of UCOS's latest victim - a cop, whose body has lain untouched under a basement for 30 years. As accusations of police corruption and underhand dealings begin to surface, Gerry has to face up to some skeletons in his own closet and it's a race against time for the team to help before his murky past catches up with him. While babysitting his grandson, Gerry becomes convinced that only he holds the key to the investigation BBQ Champ, Friday, ITV, 9pm and goes Awol to uncover the

truth. Starring Denis Lawson, Nicholas Lyndhurst, Tamzin Outhwaite, Dennis Waterman, Anthony Calf and Tracy-Ann Oberman.

### WEDNESDAY

The Great British Bake Off BBC1, 8pm

New series. Twelve contestants begin the battle to be named Britain's best amateur baker, facing tasks devised by judges Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood, who have created 30 new challenges to test their baking skills and creativity. Their first signature challenge is to make a Madeira cake, before they attempt to bake a frosted walnut cake in the technical challenge. Day two of the contest sees the

contestants going all out to try and impress the judges with their first showstopper, the Black Forest gateau. Mel Giedroyc and Sue Perkins present. The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice is on Friday on BBC2 at 9pm.

THURSDAY ITV. 8.30pm

Gabby Logan hosts this search to find Britain's best celebrity sheep-herder, as eight famous faces, including DJ Tony Blackburn, former Eternal singer Kelle Bryan, Corrie star Wendi Peters and Paralympian Lee Pearson, are paired with professional sheepdogs for a series of knockout trials testing skill, technique and discipline. Next to face the challenge are N-Dubz singer Fazer and Birds of a Feather actress Lesley Joseph, who are given intensive training before guiding Jack and Gyp around the course.

### **FRIDAY BBQ Champ**

ITV, 9pm Myleene Klass presents the second round of the contest as the seven remaining contestants take on the King of the Kebab challenge. South London youth worker Solomon tries to impress judges Adam Richman and Mark Blatchford with his spicy chicken kebab, while Gary creates an ambitious Fruits de Mer concoction and Nicola's trio of fish kebab risks sinking without trace. Later, a Seaside Sizzler challenge sees the contestants tasked to cook for families on the beach.







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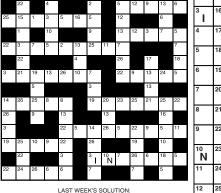
Thinking space

**BRAIN GYM** 

No.335

### Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



### **Double Crossword**

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

### **Cryptic Clues:**

- 1. Come a croppe season? (4)
- 8. Apropos the sign of possession... (10) 9. ... be seen again to gather fruit (8)
- 10. Shed players (4)
  12. It's obvious father can camp (6)
- 14. Fearsome things almost - they can't be right! (6)
- 15. Didn't get the desired husband?
- holding grain (6) 18. The weather they have at Spithead at
- 19. Flowers, perhaps
- 21. Failed to notice being in somebody's view (10)
- 22. Favourites return at the interval (4)

- 2. Later change a can with nothing in it for a change (10)
- 3. The French politician throws light on things (4) 4. Powerful ring given
- for article in 12 (6) 5. Averts disaster only to die of hunger (6)
- 6. Entertainment with nothing but a musical composition (8)
- 7. Master the rhythm? (4)
- vear, no doubt (10) 13. Tread was pointing
- to the rising sun (8) 16. It may mean no treat when he treats! (6)
- 17. Match action taken by workers (6) **18.** Tops up here (4)
- 20. The last things to associate with odds (4)

# Quick Clues

### Across

- 1. Girl (4)
- 8 Ineffective (10)
- 9. Footpath (8) 10. Not new (4)
- 12. Amuse (6)
- 14. Marauder (6) 15. Put in (6)
- 17. Invent (6)
- 18. Liability (4)
- 19. Capsize (8)
- 21. Confederate (10)
- 22. Humble (4)

- 2. Disagreeing (2,8)
- 3 Certain (4)
- 4. Mourn (6)
- 5. Raillery (6) 6. Light up (8)
- 7. Old (4)
- 11. Voters (10)
- 13. Building (6)
- 16. Company (6) **17.** Believe (6)
- **18.** Do business (4)
- 20. Pour (4)

## Sudoku

		8			6		1	4
	9					7	6	
		1		5	9	3		
9		7					8	
5			9	4				2
	2					5		9
		5	3	9				1
	6	4			5	8		
	Q		1			9		

Fill in the grid below so that every column every row and each of the 3x3 all the digits

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across. 7 Image; 8 Ironing; 9
Isan 18 Eight; 10 Unit; 12 Large princip; 9
Isan 18 Eight; 19 Ord; 12 Large princip; 20
Isan 18 Eight; 19 Ord; 12 Large princip; 20
Isan; 20 Large; 14 Large; 14 Large; 15 Cellapse; 6 Circult; 11 Metabolism; 13 Aviation; 14 Elegant; 16 Ghosts; 17 Anvil; 20
Drag, QUICK - Across; 7 Touch; 8 Actions; 9
Tuneful; 10 Rider; 12 Settlement; 15 Evanescent; 18 Yearn; 19 Uniform; 21 Classic; 22 Learn.
Down: 1 Stationory; 2 Funny; 3 Chef; 4 Tablet; 5 Sturgeon; 6 Soldier, 11 Retirement; 13
Evenness; 14 Caravan; 16 Crutch; 17 Focal; 20 Idle.

### Quiz

What nationality was detective writer Georges Simenon?

 $\begin{bmatrix} E & 2 & 3 & D & G & S & 6 & 7 & B & W & 1 & S & N & L & K & P \\ 4 & 15 & 16 & 17 & 18 & 19 & 20 & 21 & 22 & 23 & 24 & 25 & 26 \\ J & Y & Z & B & W & I & V & Q & A & U & M & O & C \\ \end{bmatrix}$ 

- In what year was the St. Valentine's Day
- What type of variety act was made popular by Edgar Bergen and Ray Alan? Who was born first, Yoko Ono or John
- Lennon? With which branch of science do you associate Copernicus?
- 6. Which agricultural pioneer invented the seed drill?
- What was the real surname of American black muslim leader Malcolm X?
- From which country did the U.S. buy
- 9. Of which country was Juan Peron the president?
- 10. What does RADAR stand for?

### Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Violin; 2 22; 3 Franklin D Roosevelt;

- 4 Hiram Maxim; 5 New Zealand; 6
- Capability: 7 Ruritania: 8 1983: 9 The

first men's and women's public flushing

lavatories: 10 Escoffier.

### Niner

gives an animal, gives a large bird 5362745 gives a baby bird.

he clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.





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### **Colourful Cornwall.** St Ives. Padstow and **Falmouth**

Four days departing Oct 2 and 2016 dates\*



PRICE FROM

- · Return coach travel
- Three nights half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Trebah Gardens
- Visits to Falmouth, St Ives, Padstow and Penzance • Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies
- This break also departs on March 18, April 1, May 16, July 8 and September 30

### **Towns of the Thames** Winchester and the **Watercress Line**

Four days departing October 9



PRICE FROM

- Return coach travel
- Three nights half-board accommodation
- Visits to Marlow and Winchester, Mapledurham House and Watermill. Royal Windsor with a cruise on the Thames, plus Henley on Thames with entrance to the River and Rowing Museum
- Journey on the Watercress Line
- Single rooms subject to availability supplement applies

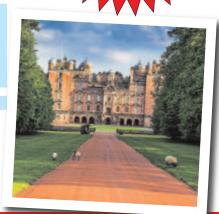
### **Enchanting Scottish Homes and Castles**

Five days departing October 25



PRICE FROM

- Return coach travel
- Four nights half-board accommodation
- Guided tour of Bowhill House
- · Visit to Floors Castle
- Guided tour of Drumlanrig Castle · Visit to the New Lanark World Heritage Site
- Single rooms subject to availability supplement applies



### **Manchester Christmas Markets** and Coronation Street tour

Two days departing November 21



- PRICE FROM
- Return coach travel
- Visit to the Manchester Christmas Markets
- Entrance to Coronation Street The Tour • Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies
- · Overnight half-board accommodation

### **Hyde Park Winter** Wonderland

Two days departing November 28



PRICE FROM

£89

- Return coach travel
- · Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to Hyde Park Winter Wonderland
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability supplement applies

A full day with lots of free time is spent in the World

Heritage Site of Bath, complete with its Georgian

architecture, interesting attractions and boutique

Also included in this festive break is a 20-mile steam

railway journey on the West Somerset Steam

Railway to Bishops Lydeard. Passing through eight

unique stations, admire the scenic views and focal

points along the way including the Exmoor National

Park, Brendon hills and extensive coastline across

the Bristol Channel

### **Longleat's Giant Lanterns and Bristol** Christmas Market

Two days departing November 28



PRICE FROM

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation Visit to Longleat Christmas lantern festival
- Visit to Bristol Christmas market
- Single rooms subject to availability supplement applies

### York St Nicholas **Fayre and Harrogate**

Two days departing November 28



PRICE FROM

£99

- Return coach travel
- · Overnight half-board accommodation
- · Visit to York St Nicholas Christmas Fayre
- Visit to Harrogate
- Single rooms subject to availability supplement applies

# THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER. Christmas in Weston-Super-Mare

Five days departing December 23 from £399 Join this Christmas getaway to the jewel of the South West and enjoy four nights in a seaside hotel, plus excursions and entertainment.

During the visit to Glastonbury maybe visit the Abbey, an ancient pilgrimage centre where King Arthur is believed to be buried. Explore the quirky shops offering endless curiosities and walk up to the top of the famous Glastonbury Tor, renowned for its spectacular views (some entrance fees payable locally).

In Wells, England's smallest city, admire the architecture including its famed 12th century cathedral featuring over 300 carvings and statues, and a magnificent example of early gothic design. See the market place in full festive swing with a traditional Santa's grotto and songs from the local singing choirs.

Christmas Day is at leisure to relax at the hotel or maybe take a stroll along the Grand Pier following a gala Christmas lunch with a glass of wine. In the evening, following a festive buffet, enjoy some evening entertainment

### INFO

- Return coach travel
- Four nights half-board accommodation Christmas day lunch
- Festive treats and a visit from Santa
- Entertainment every night
- Visits to Bath, Glastonbury and Wells
- Steam train journey on the West Somerset Railway
- Single rooms subject to availability supplement applies

### John Rutter's **Christmas Celebration** at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing December 7



PRICE FROM

£109

- · Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation • Ticket to John Rutter's Christmas Celebration at the
- Visit to Hyde Park Winter Wonderland
- · Single rooms subject to availability supplement applies

### Winchester and Salisbury **Christmas Markets**

Two days departing December 12



PRICE FROM

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visits to Salisbury and Winchester Christmas markets · Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

### **Torquay Turkey** and Tinsel

Four days departing Nov 20 and Dec 11



PRICE FROM

£139

- · Return coach travel
- · Three nights half-board accommodation
- · Christmas lunch • Christmas turkey and tinsel programme
- Nightly entertainment at the hotel
- Free time in Torquay with visits to Exeter and Exmouth
- Three optional excursions also offered
- Single rooms subject to availability supplement applies

### The Nutcracker on Ice at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing December 28



PRICE FROM

£119

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Ticket to The Nutcracker on Ice at the Royal Albert Hall (upgrades offered)
- Visit to Hyde Park Winter Wonderland
- Single rooms subject to availability supplement applies

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agent at £120,000.

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The first of the reception rooms is bay fronted with period coving and the bathroom is fitted out in contemporary style. There is also a useful cellar rovoiding ample storage space and an

providing ample storage space and an entrance hall.

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markets

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07922 258412.

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guns & dogs

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NOTICE TO READERS

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when
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some simple guidelines you can
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1. Try to ensure you visit the
puppy whilst it is still with it's
Deputy whilst it is still with it's
Deputy whilst it is still with it's
Deputy from any other location
than that of the breeder.
Sensure that you are given any
KC documentation, if pedigree
Whilst Midland News
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great care to avoid publication
of advertisements from Puppy
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liability should readers
purchase from this kind of
establishment.

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# Motoring

### cars over £1500

FORD FOCUS 2.0 TITANIUM SALOON AUTOMATIC 55 reg, petrol, MoT April, heated leather seats, parking sensors, alloy wheels, 58,000 miles, very good condition. 22,800 one 07807 869209.

KIA CARENS 2.0 2009, 30,000 genuine miles, really good condition. £3,250 ono. 07804 141966 / 01902 823097.

full time - general

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FORD KA 1.3
31,000 miles. Two owners
8 months MoT. FSH.
£1,650.
07443 567011.

LEXUS 450 hgs Hybred, 2006, 56 auto, blue, new shape, full leather fully loaded, one owner from £6,250 ono. 07490 087526.

MERCEDES A150 CLASSIC-SE, 2008, 34,000 miles, black metallic, fsh, long MoT, one lady owner, excellent condition. £3,995. 07703 722843.

NISSAN FIGARO CONVERTIBLE Low mileage, 1991, automatic turbo, MoT, lady owner, ven good condition. £5,500. 07741 623772.

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DYNAMIQUE MK3. 1.4 2006.
Black. 86,000 miles.
Reliable. Excellent condition.
FSH, 12 months MoT. A/C.
New brakes. New cam belt.
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Company car due.
£2,150 ono. 01902 844155.

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RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.9DCI DYNAMIQUE 2004, 85k miles. Penault fsh, keyless entry, panoramic roof, cecent cambelt. Disc and pads. Long MoT, lady owner, 7 seats. 22,100. 07446 153957.

SMART FOR TWO PASSION 2007, 61,000 miles, 1 owner, 6-speed, turbo, cheap tax £30 per annum. £2,400. 07862 252647.

TOYOTA YARIS 1.0 Black, 2 door, hatchback, very good condition, 60k miles, CD

player, a/c, power steering, fsh, MoT, electric front windows. £2,900 ono. Telephone 07525 396370.

VAUXHALL INSIGNIA, 2010, 2.0CDTi SRi, (160bhp), 5 door, diesel, silver, hatchback, MoT, excellent condition, fsh, 74k, £6,195 ono. 07815 435331.

## VAUXHALL INSIGNIA EXCLUSIV,

EXCLUSIV, 1.8, petrol, 12 reg, MoT June 2016, FSH, silver, 50,000 miles, lovely car, sale due to company car. Bargain price£6,250. 07866 324999. Sedgley.

or973 720005.

VW TOURAN TDI 2004

96k, 2 owners from new, MoT till

30/16. Usual VW extras inc A/C,
CC, radio/cd, RCL, PAS, ESP,
alarmed, alloys. New cambelt
2012, FSH, 5-seater.
22 250,
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### cars under £1500 ADVERTISERS ARE

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that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly ments must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

CITROEN C1 RHYTHM. 4 dr, 2005, FSH, MoT till Oct. £1,200. o.n.o. 01902 372028 or 07974 977887.

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# **ClassifiedAds**

## W reg, MoT, Service History. Must be seen.

Excellent condition. £950 ono. 01384 823449.

CITROEN SAXO 1.1 2000, 5dr yellow, MoT December, 74,000 miles, very good condition £650.07914 941799.

FIAT PUNTO 1.2
2002, 62,000 miles, MoT
2016, electric windows,
tral locking, CD player, gold,
immaculate

### £695. 07939 498854.

FORD FIESTA 1.2. 2004, 3-dr hatch, silver, new cambelt has been fitted this year. Good condition. Mot Sep £750. ono. Perton: 07554 242826.

FORD KA 03, black, long MoT, ideal 1st car. £795 ono. 07471 476332

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2000, 2.0 Zetec, alloys, good condition, 6 months MoT, very low miles, only 50,000.

£495 ono.

07801 597263.

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04 reg, silver, 6 speed, abs, heated seats, alloys, parking sensors, folding mirrors, s/h, 140k, long Mot, drives well. £1,250.

Telephone 01384 258601

Telephone 01384 258601

HONDA CRV. 2000, 131,000 miles, black, god condition, long MoT, auto, surroof, new cambell and battery, £580 one, 01584 278652.

JAGUAR S TYPE, 2002, V8, auto, silver, 11 months MoT, excellent

MAZDA 6 SERIES 2.0 petrol auto 2007 sportback, 87k, very good condition, very reliable, £1,400.07474 371548.

MERCEDES 190E 1.8 AUTO. K reg. 121,000k, MoT Oct 2015. New tyres, brakes and battery and exhaust. £950. ono. 07594 083848.

NISSAN PRIMERA, 1998, turbo diesel, 135,000 miles, blue, alarm, long MoT, central locking, pas, diesel, alloys, CD player, £425. 07929 438597.

PEUGEOT 206 1.4GLX, 5 door, 2001, MoT October, clean and tidy, 2001, wo 1 CC... £395. Telephone 07494 075563.

PEUGEOT 206 2.0GTi 2003, petrol, 65,000 miles, half leather interior, CD multi-changer, alloys, MoT March 2016. Parrot handsfree, £1,100.

Genuine callers only. 07494 485161

PEUGEOT 206 HDI 1.9SE 5 door, 2004 reg, blue, 49,000 miles, 1sh, 1 former keeper, 12 months MoT. Excellent condition. Only £1,495. Telephone 07984 141652.

PEUGEOT 206S 1100cc PEUGEOT 206S 1100cc 2004. Black. Black and red inte-rior. MoT'd December 2015. Lady owner. Nice looking car and reliable. £550 ono. 07963 938673.

RENAULT CLIO 1999, 1.2, MoT Nov, 126,000 miles, good, reliable and economical car. £295 ono. For more details 07990 516635.

RENAULT CLIO 1999, 1.2, MoT Nov, 126,000 miles, good, reliable and economical car. £375 ono. For more details 07990 516635.

RENAULT SCENIC
DYNAMIQUE 1.6
56 reg, 70,000 miles, metallic
gold, 5 door, hatch, 2 owners
from new, fish, MoT April 2016,
CD, cl, alarm, a/c.
£1,400.
Telephone 07954 419531.

ROVER 45 2.5 V6 Conniosseur Auto, 10 months MoT, 81,000 miles, dark blue. Illness forces sale. £375. 07702 454630.

ROVER 45 IMPRESSION 1.6, 2001, 80,261 miles, red, petrol, MoT May 2016, abs, air con, alarm, CD, £550 ono. 07732 399413.

V W BEETLE 2002, 91,000 miles, silver, electric windows, long MoT, metallic paint, alloys. £1,495 ono. 07754 557861.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2, 3 door, 54 reg, service history, excellent condition, £895.
Telephone 07983 421402. VAUXHALL CORSA 3-dr hatchb

Special Ed. 1.2 SXi. 2000. black. low miles. MoT. Very reliable, £495. Genuine calls only. 07850 330 251 VAUXHALL CORSA GLS 1.2, 4 door, 2003, beautiful condition, two owners. 70k. new MoT. £995. 01384 873411/0711 688220.

VOLVO C70 COUPE 2001, Excellent condition 1, Excellent cond 10 months MoT. £1,395. 07746 621632.

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01630 652993.

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07970 200066 / 01922 780250 01562 870050 / 01384 234954 01543 660120 / 0121 564 0090 01902 580065

### motorbikes

HONDA CBF125 black, 64 reg, only 775 miles, like new. Bargain. £2,100 ono. 07970 678930.



### KAWASAKI ZRX1200S

oom condition, only 927 02 plate, absolutely immaculate.

### £4,250 ono. 01299 210602

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name/contact number confirmation of receipt)

Personals

### personal



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### MAN SEEKING WOMAN

'm a 48 year old male, self employed, seeking a lady of a similar age for friendship/ possible relationship. enjoy the cinema, meals out walking etc:

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FEMALE, kind caring and loving seeks sim-

swered. Text only Mailbox No: 4655519 PRETTY slim female, 48, N/S, no ties, seeks tall, slim level headed male for initial friendship and evenings out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416727

FEMALE, kind caring and loving seeks similar male for relationship text only all texts answered. Text only Mailbox No: 4655519

HI my name is Zara. I am 5ft 4ins, slim build. I

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks lov-

DAWN attractive, easygoing, and dazzling.

WLTM well built mature male for fun loving no strings romance. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416917 <sup>↑</sup>

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JO 55, curry redhead, loves eating out, the-atre, travel, looking for middle-aged prince charming to sweep me off my feet. **Text only** to **Mailbox No: 4464905** 

ANN, young looking 40yrs seeks broad-minded man of any age/location for no strings discreet times, games and more. Tel No: 0906 515 4294 Box No: 412369

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773

WENDY, 40. slim. fit. bubbly female looking WENDY, 90, Sull, sim, our mature male who thinks he can keep up. Tel No: 0906 500 DATING NEEDN'T BE DAUNTING 9955 BOX No: 418369 B

EILEEN, slim green eyed brunette likes meals out and cosy nights in, seeks tall male

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287 ∰

FEMALE seeking gent 55-70, down to earth, nice and intelligent who knows how to treat a lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417195 🖰

417195 tj YOUNG early 40's female, GSOH, kind, car-ing, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance, Tel No: 0906 500 3955 ing, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410847 €

CAROL 49, attractive, green eyed blonde, honest warm hearted, n/s with GSOH likes cinema, music, walking, meals out and travel seeking similar male. Text only to Mailbox

male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No:
10, slim build, looking for a man 50-55 with
salt and pepper hair and GSOH. Text only to

ELLEN 45, attractive, with statuesque curvy
figure looking for an uncomplicated relation-

salt and pepper hair and GSOH. Text only to Mailbox No: 4435776

HEATHER, 34, single very attractive brunette, sensual and interesting, looking to add to life's experiences and adventures with professional male, Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417663 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ MICHELLE, 37, pretty, very fit, well travelled sea No: 418183 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ MICHELLE, 37, pretty, very fit, well travelled new experiences and adventures with ACA.

JACKIE lonely and looking for male com-

MDI naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you wont be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409109 §

409109 ∰ No: ±17081 ∭ No: ±170

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SHARON, 48, tall slim attractive, live alone ZARA 5ft 4ins, slim, single mum, honest, carwith no ties, love romanticising and WLTM ing, likes walks, seeking genuine male, 45-50 seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box Noman for good times together, maybe more. Tor friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 416337
Any age, Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 3955 Box No: 417513 8
THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving

nor spontaneous fun relationship. Tel No:

908 500 3955 Box No: 418445 

ULIE, attractive early 40's brunette, size 10,

AMANDA, 36, tall, slim, busby brunette seeks
man, any age, any area, for discreet daytime
Int. Tel No: 0906 515 4292 Box No: 418117

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking

discreet times, games and more. Tel No: 475121

GENUINE lady looking for genuine male, age 58-60, for friendship, and to have a laugh with. So if that's you would love to hear from you. Text only to Mailbox No: 4937136

ANNA, busy mature lady seeks no string discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0906 510 4395 Box No: 417787 B

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. Tel No: 0905 500 3955 Box No: 417783 B

ATRACTIVE kind, caring, single lady, loves and increase and the companies with the control of the control

animals, WLTM uniformed office for genuine, sincere relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955

Box No: 417623 

Only Mailbox Box No: 4527227

SMS MATCHMAKER

SINGLES IN YOUR AREA ARE USING THEIR PHONES TO FIND DATES, NIGHTS OUT AND MAYBE MORE.

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SINGLE mom, 40yrs, small, not skinny
WLTM single dad aged 39 to 45. Text only
to Mailbox No: 4295299

GINA effective first fir

to Mailbox No: 4295299

VIVACIOUS strawberry blonde who knows FEMALE, 36, looking for a genuine guy to just what she wants, looking for carring male vines next one spontaneous fun relationship. Tel No: Uniter. Tel No: Unit

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking to meet a fall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. Tel No: 0906 500 S955 Box No: 4178478 

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long lar, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for brown eyes, generous curves, would love to a 3955 Box No: 418938 

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs.

9855 Box No: 417985 

9855 Box N

UISCHEET man wanted by married lady for no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs. Pls call, ACA. Tel No: 0.9906 5151 4299 Box. Pls call, ACA. Tel No: 0.9906 5151 4299 Box. Pls call, ACA. Tel No: 0.9906 5151 4299 Box. Pls call, ACA. Tel No: 0.9906 510 3955 Box No: 417341 €

TRACP, sim attractive cheerful brunette, enjoys aromatherapy/massage, looking for a loving relationly pint lot of cuddles and processing to strain the strain travel, looking for middle-aged prince charming to sweep me of miry lete. Text only

41787 €

JEAN. Shy hunette with lots of love to circle.

417787 BOSTON female 56 loyal, intelligent, loves bistory seeks dependable humorous male for relationship. Text only to Mailbox No: 417285 BOSTON NO: 417285

KIND caring lady early 30s, 5ft5, slim fair hair

HAPPY, fit, 77yr old widow N/S 5ft 3in GSOH Loves travel many int

man with caravan/camper to share week-ends/holidays. Text only to Mailbox No: 4492014

to live life to the full, seeks adventurous out going male to appreciate and share life with Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417091

SHERRIE 32, blonde, great company, loves going out, looking to share life with that special someone. Status/Looks/age unimpor-

cial someone. Status/Looks/age unimportant.Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417067

KAREN 50, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar male, 55-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416989 🗒

share LISA, 31yr old petite bundle of fun looking for fun, easygoing genuine guy. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417223 🗒

4527227

SUSAN 44, stunning curvy blonde, fit and active seeks happy go lucky male for good conversation, fun times, maybe more. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416801 STELLA 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all woman seeks sensual older male, who knows just what he wants for lots of naughty fun and TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 🗒 No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707 | 1et N ou fact the going or a draw tonghi?

0906 500 3955 Box No: 416521

CHRISTINE 48, shy sensitive brunette look ing for lively older male to make her smile again and bring back some passion. s Te No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416519 🗒

BEAUTIFUL full figured, down to earth black woman, 37, looking for some serious fun with an experienced, confident, older guy. Tel No. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416499

JUNE 50, beautiful, funny, warm, young look-

SHELLY 36, tiny shy brunette seeks down to earth, sensitive, older male to snuggle up, share a bottle of wine with and pamper. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416235 🗒

KATHERINE 33, pretty blonde would love to FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking

male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287

ALICE 36, tall and slim with long brown had outgoing and sporty seeks funny, intellige guy to share active days and cosy night guy to share active days and osey nights.

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, furny male to pamper and make happy Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 16087 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ box No: 16087 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ late table and loving seeks lating all for interactions are considered as the constraint of the constraint o

DIANCE 37, Serissual, factile and loving seeks tall male for interesting conversations and cosy intimate nights together. Tel No: 0906 lady for romantic nights and possible 500 3955 Box No: 416085 

■ NEIL 51, GSOH, WLTM, a caring, see cosy intimate nights and possible 300 3955 Box No: 416085 

■ Serissual, factile and loving seeks tall matter and love the seeks tall matter and seeks tall matter and love the seeks tall matter and

GSOH, likes sports, socialising, good com-pany, seeking female with GSOH for laughs conversation and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415969

KAREN 50, widow, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks gent with GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415871 GWEN middle aged, 65-75, 5ft 2ins, likes

re, country music, holidays, seeks N/S Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No ASIA very attractive slim single black 32vr fe-

ASIA very attractive sum single black 32/y female looking for fun times with god time guy with GSOH and a real passion for life and falling in love. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415837 € MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills SARAH 31yrs looking for casual 1-2-1 no strings fun with broadminded bored male. Status unimportant, discretion and mutual respect essential. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415821

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, LINDA uncomplicated female who loves the simple things in life, looking for N/S male with GSOH for nights in/out, no games, users or time wasters please. s Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415535 🗒

MARIA gorgeous leggy blonde seeks tall professional male for fun nights out, cosy nights in with plenty of TLC and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416861 PATRICIA widow 67, likes simple pleasures in life, seeks gent, N/S for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415685

BOX NO: 415895

KAREN 50, widow, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5lins, slim, seeks male, Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418245

Sins, slim, seeks male, Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418245

WIDOWER 70s, lonely, educated, well travelled reliable hardle hard

HOME alone far too often, attractive bubby fun good time girl 32yrs seeking male 30-50yrs for broadminded daytime fun. Let's rid the boredom! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415523 🗒

SUE attractive, independent, confident female, sporty, petite, loves the Arts, good books, looking for romantic, sensitive nice guy for nice times together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415501

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429 AMANDA 5ft 4ins slim fit attractive, enjoys

romantic considerate soul mate to broaden my horizons. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415391

preferred, 60-67, 5ft 6ins, so slightly taller than me, NJS, car owner and likes a dog. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 146371

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 146373

### Men seeking women

PAUL 50yrs, Birmingham, with own house and own car, I have a good sense of humour and I like going out, I'm looking for the right you can. 418465 ₽

PROFESSIONAL gentleman would like to PAT 5ft 2ins, medium build, attractive, blonde hair, widow, seeking N/S, sincere gent for triendship and days out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 316752

TALL, dark, attractive guy, 49, seeks attractive from times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 316752

JOE 60s seeking fun loving lady for discreet LTR. Text only to Mailbox No: 4257766

hearted, romantic, hobbies include growing fuchsia's for showing and I have a vintage tractor that I play with from time to time. Looking for similar who's up for a lot of fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418463 🗒

BRIDGET 48, voluptuous, seductive and very

SINGLE male, likes camping, walking, cysaucy, seeks male for lots of TLC and to make very happy in return. Tel No: 0906 500
diling, dogs, sightseeing, WLTM //s healthy
TALL, dark, slim, attractive guy, 48, seeks atte for companionship. West Midlands safer por companionship. West Midlands safer por companionship. West Midlands safer por companionship with the safer por companionship. West Midlands safer po



VERY fit 5'8 sporty attractive, pro Black male ъевкъ вацу зъ-ъв, any nationality for tac LTR. Text only to Mailbox No: 4844360

COLIN 48, seeks large cuddly lady 47-56 for LTR/Romance. Single Muns welcome. Text only to Mailbox No: 4730876

only to Mailbox No: 4730876

JOHN 26, GSOH, likes the outdoors, wine and good food, medium athletic build, WLTM older woman for fun and firedish. Text policy words for fun and from the fundamental function of the fundamental fund and good food, medium athletic build, WLTM older woman for fun and friendship. Text only to Mailbox No: 4488256

LONELY male, 57, seeks Chinese/Ja-for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411801

seeking famale for mendship. Love me love my dog. Tel No: 906 500 3955 Box No: 417439 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ mendship and more Tel No: 9966 500 3955 Box No: 417439 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ mendship and more Tel No: 9966 500 3955 Box No: 417439 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ MALE, medium build, down to earth, salt & pepper hair, GOSH, Sincere, WLTM someone similar. Text only to Mailbox No: 390157

No: 100 3955 Box No: 4174395 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ MALE, medium build, down to earth, salt & pepper hair, GOSH, Sincere, WLTM someone similar. Text only to Mailbox No: 4744385 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ PURCHARD 44, single, happy go lucky, likes pubs, clubs, socialising, seeking female for mendship. Text only to Mailbox No: 474385

Box No: 416895 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ MALE, medium build, down to earth, salt & pepper hair, GOSH, Sincere, WLTM someone similar. Text only to Mailbox No: 474385

Box No: 41681 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ MORE 10 Male, seeking female, old fashiomovies, meals out and fine woman. Tel No: 9005 500 3955 Box No: 417601 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ MALE, medium build, down to earth, salt & pepper hair, GOSH, Sincere, WLTM someone similar. Text only to Mailbox No: 4744385

Box No: 41681 \$\frac{1}{2}\$ MORE 20 MORE

Mallox No: 4828596

MALE, 48, looking for a 30-45 yr old female who has an interest in countryside pursuits. Text only to Mailbox No: 4829696

MALE, 59, discreet, fit body, seeks lady for no strings fun. Text only to Mailbox No: 4823076 ATTRACTIVE widower seeks lady 55-70 for

companionship and more. Car only to Mailbox No: 4828789 ANDY 40, own home, likes keep fit, cooking, nights in/out, seeks special female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 309103

SINGLE male non smoker, looking for soul mate, laid back guy who likes outdoors, walking my dog and occasional mountain biking.

Text only to Mailbox No: 4763550

DAVE 55, seeks tiny broadminded slim, small breasted, long hair blonde/ginger female for adult fun/LTR. Text only to Mailbox No:

CUDDLY 50 year old male, hard working, seeks genuine woman for days and nights out and no strings fun. Text only to Mailbox No: 4437594

DAVE 37 looking for a nice lady any age to

Lext only to Mailbox No: 4320134

DUBLINER, good sense of humour, strong and very fit would bove to meet a warm sensitive lady, non smoker. Text only to Mailbox No: 4636475

Mailbox No: 4636475

Mailbox No: 4636475

LUKE 60's, seeking young Asian friend, 20-30's to spocialise with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 male 40:50 for friendship/relationship. Text only to Malibox No: 4761012 WIDOWER would love to meet female over

# @whirlcoal

for friendship, travel companion, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No 417927

ATTRACTIVE male, late 40's, seeks attractive female for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 311713 SHROPSHIRE male, 50, tall, dark, attractive, fun loving, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 341387

TIM, easygoing honest male, discreet, unin-hibited, seeks similar non-conformist averagely attractive, N/S female up to 65. Notts. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375065

MALE, outgoing 5ft10 medium built, seeking the right lady, local and caring. Likes to have fun. Text only to Mailbox No: 4750169

MIKE, 61, 5ft.5in, Coalville area seeking 30+ year old lady with long blonde hair and blue eyes for friendship. Text only to Mailbox No: 4709567

MALE nurse, tall dark and handsome, 44yrs old, easygoing, romantic, seeks female for lots of off duty fun and romance! Derby area. Text only to Mailbox No: 4172512

TIGER Woods lookalike, seeking pretty BBW

WIDOWER 70 plus, seeking female for friendship. Love me love my dog. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417439

YOUNG male, likes arts, animals, gardening classic cars, non-scene, seeks tall, active older gent for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417395

GENUINE 55 year old male seeking bi male 60 plus for discreet fun txt only. Text only to Mailbox No: 4595666

MATURE male 70 seeking similar male for discreet meetings. Text only to Mailbox No 4830151 BI curious man looking for bi or gay man in same area for fun and more - 40-50yrs old Newport. Text only to Mailbox No: 4366908

### **Women seeking Women**

TALL dark, attractive white female, 57, seeks

FEMME Lesbian, blue eyes, brown hair, look

### Friends

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# Heritage card is big hit

### By John Griffiths

Motorcycles, as a breed, are much more subject to personal preferences than cars and like many riders I'd ideally like a stable of various types in the garage, to bring out depending on my mood that day.

One of them would no doubt be a Triumph Bonneville, the modern incarnation of a legendary machine harking back to the days when British bikes ruled the world.

The latest Bonnie to roll out of the Triumph works at Hinckley in Leicestershire. looks, sounds and feels true to its illustrious ancestors. It's been updated and improved in many ways since the legendary name was revived in 2001 but its retro styling, a homage to the 1959 original, remains instantly recognisable.

Growing up in the 1960s the Bonnie was a young boy's dream, and continued as an object of desire long after most of Britain's motorcycle industry had been devastated by a wave of Japanese imports.

Since its revival 14 years ago by the 'new' Triumph Motorcycle Company it has survived in a market where models are frequently launched and replaced in little more than a year.

It still makes a significant contribution to the 50,000-plus machines a year leaving the factory gates, with the flagship T100, Thruxton cafe racer and scrambler variants adding to the standard machine's appeal.

Doubtless the nostalgia factor among bikers of a certain age is a major contributory factor to the Bonneville's longevity but

there's a lot more to it than that. Don't be fooled by that retro-styling: this is a thoroughly modern bike with computer-controlled fuel injection and disc brakes front and rear.

It's competitively priced (from £6,999) and relatively light and easy to handle, with adequate power for the experienced rider to have fun but not so much as to scare those with fewer miles under their belts. It makes an ideal 'first big bike'.

It also has a low 740mm seat height and a 'one size fits all' configuration which allows even those a bit shorter in the leg to feel secure and comfortable.

The engine is perhaps the perfect example of Triumph's 'old meets new' Bonneville design philosophy.

It's a traditional air-cooled twin (as opposed to the triple powering Triumph's latest adventure and sports models) and appears to have old-fashioned carburettors but in fact this is a specially forged housing for the throttle bodies and fuel injection system. Similarly it appears to have a pushrod tube at the front of the engine, even though it actually has double overhead cams.

The 865cc unit has 68PS of power and 68Nm of torque, much of it at lower revs so that power delivery is smooth and predictable across the range. It gives the Bonnie an easy-going, almost lazy nature akin to a cruiser, but with the ability to pick up its heels and go when circumstances dictate.

The bike gives the impression of being happy to run all day at motorway speeds, although even if it was legal you wouldn't want to go much faster since as the speed mounts so does the wind pressure on the rider. You could fit a screen, I suppose, but personally there's plenty of performance for British roads and I wouldn't want to spoil those classic good looks.



'The latest Bonnie to roll out of the Triumph works at Hinckley, looks, sounds and feels true to its illustrious ancestors.' That has to be a big part of the Bonnie's appeal, along with features such as the peashooter exhaust, two chromed shocks at the rear, forged aluminium wheels and the shiny headlight housing.

The long, flat double seat fitted as standard means taller riders can easily shuffle about to find their most comfortable position, but the test bike came with the optional solo seat: large, beautifully shaped and comfortable enough to rival most big cruisers

The Bonnie is no heavyweight at 225kgs (wet), and most of that is lower down than many rivals which contributes to its inher-

ent stability. The low height, wide, straightish bars, well-damped steering and smooth throttle operation add to the Bonnie's natural balance and make it confidence-inspiring for for slow-speed riding in traffic. On the open road, handling through the twisty bits is neutral and assured.

There's a single 310mm disc at the front and a 255mm disc at the rear, providing plenty of braking power with sensitivity and 'feel' for the rider.

If Triumph wants to play the heritage card it's hard to think how they could have created a better modern interpretation of a true British classic.



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# Big brother, good or bad?

### By Alasdair Suttie

Some insurance companies want all cars fitted with a 'black box' to record our driving. Is this a good thing or Big Brother watching?

We hear a lot about black box re-corders in aeroplanes, but we will also be hearing a lot more in the near future about these mysterious devices for our

Insurance companies are always looking at ways to reduce the number of claims and payouts they have to deal with. One way to do this is use black box recorders, or telem-

atics to give it the correct name.

Just as with an aeroplane's black box recorder, the ones fitted to cars are able to measure distance, time and location

This means they can also record speed, though insurers say this would only be tak-en into account in the event of a collision and drivers breaking the speed limit in normal driving would not be reported to the police.

However, by recording speed, time and location, black boxes can be used to assess the risk factor of a driver. This has been used to encourage young drivers to be more careful, particularly as they are the group most likely to be involved in a serious or fatal collision.

Using the hidden and tamper-proof black box to make sure young drivers are not on the road between certain times, usually from late at night till early in the morning, allows the insurer to offer a lower premium.

Young drivers are three times more likely to be involved in a serious or fatal collision

or make an insurance claim as a result of

The black box can also measure the driv er's style, showing if the driver is heavy on the throttle and brakes or smooth and pro

ressive.
The smoother the driver, the more likely they are to enjoy a lower insurance premium. In many cases, the more careful driver can save up to a third on their insurance cost, as well as being less likely to be involved in a

While some drivers object to their driving being monitored, it's expected that a quarter of all cars on the UK's roads will be fitted with a black box by 2020.

It's already a common practice among company car and van fleets because it lets the fleet manager assess the safety and eco driving skills of drivers in order to reduce run-

Drivers with a clean licence and no insurance claims may find a black box policy more expensive than their current insurance premium due to the cost of installing the technology.

However, for high-risk category drivers, such as the young and high mileage business drivers, or those driving in densely populated cities, a black box could help cut their insurance outgoings. For many in these groups, it will be a case of when rather than if they have to adopt this technology in their

A spokesperson for the Association of British Insurers added: "Careful drivers have nothing to worry about from black box technology, whether they opt to have it installed or it is fitted as part of their insurance policy. Only bad driving will be penalised using the black box's information, so it pays to be a considerate, careful driver.





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## Baggies are most watched TV team in the borough

ARMCHAIR pundits in Dudley are more like to watch an Albion match on TV than any other Premier League team, a study has claimed.

Research carried out by broad-Research carried out by broad-caster Sky Sports discovered more live Baggies games were watched in the borough than any other team in the top flight. And while that might not sound

the most surprising news, considering Dudley's proximity to The Hawthorns, Albion were one

The Hawthorns, Albion were one of only eight clubs to maintain a stronghold out of 118 postcode regions included in the study.

Elsewhere in the Black Country and the Midlands, Manchester United ruled the roost, emerging as the most watched club in Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Walsall.

The broadcaster analysed the viewing habits of 500,000 viewers across the country to find out

viewing habits of 500,000 viewers across the country to find out which Premier League team had been watched live three or more times the most often.

United led the way in 49 regions with Arsenal the most oppular in 33 and Liverpool next on 21.

Chelsea, Newcastle, Albion, Swansea and Leicester could also boast their own regional strongholds, with the latter somewhat bizarrely emerging as the mostwatched team by viewers in the Outer Hebrides.

Sky Sports' head of sports and

Sky Sports' head of sports and news research Matthew Roberts said: "Arsenal really do dominate sacc: Arsenai really do dominate the south east, and several areas in Scotland enjoy watching Chelsea more than any other Premier League team, while Manchester United and Liverpool really do enjoy support across the UK.<sup>8</sup>

### Albion one of the tastiest clubs in UK

ALBION have proved they are one of the tastiest clubs in the Premier League after scoring highly in a Vis-

the Baggies are scoring rightly in a visit Britain survey.

The Baggies were voted the second-best club in the league for hospitality with a score of 80.46 per cent – only beaten by Manchester

City.
The survey, conducted in the form of an unannounced mystery shop-per, graded clubs' match day hospi-tality performances during 2014/15. Albion finished top of Visit Brit-

Aniori minister dup of Visit Britani's match experience, post-match experience, service welcome and friendliness, and service efficiency. Adrian Wright, sales and marketing director, said: "To finish above the likes of Manchester United and Chelsea is a great achievement. It falls in line with all the hard work and effort we have put in."

# **Heathens looking for revenge**

HEATHENS skipper Max Clegg insists his side are capable of gaining revenge on Birmingham at Perry Barr next Wednesday.

Cradley go into the 'away' National League clash with their track sharing rivals on the back of a home defeat at their hands in May.

Having slipped 15 points behind Birmingham in the title race at the

time of going to print, Clegg knows nothing less than a win will do as they aim to keep their hopes of a third successive National League triumph alive.

However, he is adamant they have what it takes to pull off a dramatic

surge to the top of the table – starting with a vic-

tory on Wednesday. "It's going to be tough for us, Birmingham have been going well, but we know we can beat them," Clegg said.
"They are quite a long way ahead of us in the league so if we are going to win the title we know we need to get a good result. "We just need everyone to focus and be on top of

their game.

"We had a tough spell but we've had two really good wins against Stoke and Buxton which has given us confidence.

"It wasn't just the fact we won, it's that we won pretty convincingly and looked like we were back riding at our best, like we were at the start of the

ing confident, so we just need to do the same again and I think we can come out on top.

"It's going to be a close meeting, but if we can get the win then it puts the pressure on them and puts us right back in it, so we are really desperate to do

"There is still a long way in the season to go, and we still think we can make up the ground, but it's important we beat them so it's a massive meeting for us."

Children get in free and the action starts at 7.30and Cradley season tickets do apply.

# Team in tough test against the Saddlers

ALBION needed to call on all their Premier League quality to overcome a determined Walsall side in a pre-season friendly at the Banks's Stadium.

Second half goals from Saido Berahino and substitute Brown Ideye secured a 2-0 win after Saddler Tom Bradshaw missed a

win after Saddier Tom Bradshaw missed a first half penalty.

Walsall boss Dean Smith will be delighted with way his side matched their Premier League opponents, while Tony Pulis will have been thrilled with the performance of James McClean who filled in at left-back and set up both goals.

The Saddlers lined up in a 3-5-2 formation with lasen Demetricular Alice Henry operation as

Jason Demetriou and Rico Henry operating as wing-backs. There was no place for centre-back Liam Wakefield – the trialist who started Saturday's friendly against Villa.

For Albion James McClean started at left-back

with Craig Gardner at right-back

### Teasing

The Baggies were on the attack inside the first minute with Stephane Sessegnon combining well with McClean before delivering a teasing cross which Adam Chambers hacked clear.

But Walsall soon found their rhythm and they almost opened the scoring after Bradshaw was hauled down on the edge of the box by Claudio Vecch

Yacob.

Recee Flanagan's free-kick went straight into the wall but the ball cannoned back to the mid-fielder whose second effort sailed inches over the

bar.
The Saddlers, with Flanagan and Henry par-

The Saddiers, with Flanagan and rhenry par-ticularly impressive, were on top and they again came close as the half reached the mid-way point. Bradshaw did well to escape the attentions Olsson to feed Sawyers in the box. The creative schemer then cut the ball back to the on-rushing

Baxendale who side-footed wide from 12 yards.
With just over five minutes of the half remaining the Saddlers should have broken the dead-lock after Baxendale was tripped inside the box

Bradshaw stepped up to take the resultant spot-kick but his mis-hit shot cannoned off the post with the striker then scuffing the rebound wide.



James McClean of West Bromwich Albion keeping the ball away from his Walsall opponent

Both managers made changes at the break with James Morrison replacing Darren Fletcher for Albion. Walsall made four changes with Demetriou, Taylor, Chambers and Bradshaw making way for Liam Kin-sella, Matt Preston, Sam Mantom and Milan Lalkovic.

Walsall looked for an early second-half break-through, Baxendale hitting a wonderful half-volley from 30 yards which was expertly tipped over the bar by a back peddling Boaz Myhill.

But as the clock ticked towards the hour mark, Albion's Premier League quality was starting to show and McClean's low drive needed to be pushed around the post by a diving MacGillivray.

Minutes later and Albion were ahead. The hugely

impressive McClean forced his way to the by-line and hit a cross which Berahino tapped home from close

range. Ideye sealed the result seven minutes from the end.

## Move to get 39 Bakary to play at the Hawthorns

ALBION are in talks with Bakary Sako after the former Wolves fans' favourite lowered his huge wage demands. The 27-year-old winger, a free agent since his contract at Mo-

agent since his contract at Molineux expired last month, was at the Albion training ground Monday to discuss a possible move to The Hawthorns.

Albion held initial discussions with Sako's representatives earlier in the summer but baulked, along with a host of other clubs in the Premier League and on the continent, at the Mali international's £80,000-a-week wage demands.

Having failed to find a willing suitor, it is understood Sako is now prepared to significantly lower

suitor, it is understood Sako is now prepared to significantly lower his personal terms and that has prompted Albion's return to the negotiating table.

Monday's talks are understood to have gone well and Baggies boss Tony Pulis will now decide whether to press ahead to complete the deal for a player who scored 38 goals during a three-year stay at Molineux.

Sako turned down offers of a new contract at Wolves in order to seek a move to the Premier

to seek a move to the Premier

to seek a move to the Premier League.

Apart from the £1.5million capture of James McClean from Wigan, Pulis has so far experi-enced frustration in his efforts to strengthen, with attempts to lure Matt Phillips from QPR having hit

Sako remains just one of several possible arrivals this week as the head coach aims to kick-start his

summer squad building.
Talks with Liverpool striker
Rickie Lambert remain ongoing.

### Pulis is very close to deal for Chester

ALBION were poised to make Hull City defender James Chester their second signing of the summer after seeing off a late attempt by Leices-ter to hijack the move.

Boss Tony Pulis confirmed the

Baggies were very, very close to completing a deal which is understood to

pleting a deal which is understood to be worth up to £8million. Chester returned home from the Tigers' pre-season training camp in Austria to discuss terms, before Leicester then matched the fee in a bid to tempt the 26-year-old cen-tre-back to the King Power Stadium at the 11th hour.

tre-back to the King Power Stadium at the 11th hour.

But Pulis revealed the Baggies remain very much favourites.

"We are very, very close," he said.
"Fingers crossed we get the deal done. I have met the lad and had a good chat with him.

"He is a very good young player."



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## Coach leaves Wolves after just six days

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett said there were no hard feelings after under-18 coach Chris Iwelumo left the club – just six days after joining.

Former Molineux striker Iwelumo said it was with a heavy heart that he decided he was unable to meet the demands of

He only took up the role last Tuesday, but quit on Monday citing personal and family reasons.

The bizarre U-turn took Wolves by surprise and leaves them looking to recruit their second under-18 coach in quick succession to replace new first-team coach Rob Edwards.

Jackett said: "We wish him all the best – there's no hard feelings – and we appreciate him giving us an early decision.

"It is an unusual situation but he will have his own reasons, which he's conveyed.

"We appreciate his honesty."

Popular Scot Iwelumo was the standout candidate after a rigorous recruitment process, overseen by Kenny Jackett, Kevin Thelwell, Jez Moxey and academy boss Gareth Prosser.

The 36-year-old played for Wolves between 2008 and 2010 and since retiring last year had worked towards his coaching qualifications.

He said: "It is with a heavy heart that, having taken on the role and started work, I have quickly realised that I do not think I am up to the demands of the

position at this stage of my career.

"As I said last week when taking on the role, I was delighted to have been successful and was really looking for-

### Yeltz swoop in for double signing to bolster the squad

HALESOWEN TOWN have made a double signing in the shape of Gurpal Singh Mandair and Elikem Amenku.

Mandair and Eilkem Amenku.

Mandair, a midfielder, has previously
played for Tamworth and has featured
in some of the Yeltz's pre-season fixtures
while Togo-born Amenku spent last season at Tamworth, having been released

son at Tamworth, having been released by Albion's academy.
Hednesford Town recorded a fantastic 4-1 triumph over Premier League Stoke City's under-21s.
John Disney fired the Pitmen in front from the spot in the first half after a foul on Marvin Robinson, who was among the second-half scorers, along with Nathan Modest and Adam Thomas.
Rushall Olympic put up a fight, but went down 2-1 against Worcester City.
Ashley Vincent put Worcester in front in the first half, but Alex Reid looked to have earned the Pix a draw when he converted Ethan Delaney's cross, only for Daniel Nti to hit City's winner.
Stourbridge thrashed Stafford Rang-

Stourbridge thrashed Stafford Rang-ers 4-0 with Matt Dodd scoring twice and

creating one.

Kayleden Brown and an own goal had set the Glassboys on their way.

# **Welcome win for Halesowen side**

SKIPPER Rich Brooker inspired Halesowen with the ball as they secured a welcome win over Old Elizabethans at the weekend.

Brooker was the star bowler with four wickets and with Ed Kilbee leading the batting, the result was never really in doubt.

It means Brooker's men head into another home game with Eastnor on Saturday in good shape with space developing between them and the clubs below.

Said Booker: "We took advantage of a good toss to win taking two early wickets until a fightback from the Old Elizabethans overseas player Jo-

hann Smit

"I thought he batted aggressively but when Dan Jeavons bowled him a collapse followed. "We were disappointed not to bowl them out earlier, to be honest, when we had them 112-9.

earner, to be nonest, when we had them 112-9.

"Aggressive early batting from Johal and Kilbee took the game away from them with the score on 52 off 7 overs when the first wicket fell.

"Kilbee did well and ensured there would be no drama finishing 77 not out off 81 balls with good support from Moseley and Shahid.

"We are all pleased with the win and hopefully

now we can array the momentum from this into Saturday's home game with Eastnor."
Old Elizabethans were 150 all out after 53.5 overs, a target which Halesowen were always confident of reaching with some confort.
Johan Smit top scored with 49 off 60 balls and hit 10 fours, Brooker took 4-21 from 13 overs.

Halesowen knocked them off in 28 overs with Ed Kilbee unbeaten on 77 and former skipper Faisal Shahid joined him to see them through on 154-2.

This Saturday the seconds travel to Shrews-bury in their latest league action.

## Sheffield are too sharp for Heathens

CRADLEY put up a brave fight against a Sheffield Select side but slipped to a 51-39 defeat at Owlerton.

51-39 defeat at Owlerton.

It was a worthwhile exercise for the reigning National League champions who did themselves proud against some quality opposition, with Ellis Perks again standing out at reserve.

The Heathens claimed the opening two race winners in a share of the spoils with guest Ben Wilson and then Perks taking the chequered flag. Teenage sensation Zach Wajtknecht, also guesting for the Heathens. made the gate in heat sation Zach Wajtknecht, also guesting for the Heathens, made the gate in heat three but was passed by Sheffield debutant Paco Castagna on the opening lap. Matt Williamson and Perks gated on a 5-1 in heat four, but were forced to settle for another tied heat after a great ride from Arthur Sissis saw him pass the Cradley duo.

Wilson won the fifth before the deadlock was broken in heat six as Sheffield edged into a two-point lead. The Wajtknecht and Michael Neale combination forced another shared race before the Heathens gained their first advantage with a 4-2 from Perks and Arron Mogridge in heat eight to draw level.

with a 4-2 from Perks and Arron Mog-ridge in heat eight to draw level. But three successive Sheffield 4-2s saw the home side lead by six with four races to go. Cradley's hopes of snatch-ing a win were all but ended when Ben Wilson slid off and was taken off track in an ambulance in heat 11 with a thigh

in an ambulance in heat 11 with a thigh injury.

Sheffield: Arthur Sissis 15, Paco Castagna 12, Josh Bates 10+1, Danny Ayres 5+1, Rob Shuttleworth 5+1, Chris Widman 3, Alex Wilson 1+1, Cradley: Ellis Perks 13+1, Matt Williamson 8+1, Zach Wajtknecht 7+1, Ben Wilson 6, Michael Neale 4+2, Arron Mogridge 1, Tyler Govier 0

# AFOBE HAS TH LW

### BENIK AFOBE struck late to earn Wolves a deserved draw in an end-to-end West Midlands derby at Molineux.

A lively game, played out in front of a large and boisterous crowd, saw Villa twice take the lead through Libor Kozak but dogged Wolves refused to lie

zak but dogged Wolves refused to lie down in a chance-laden encounter. Kenny Jackett sprang a surprise with his line-up, plumping for Dave Edwards on the left of midfield in a 4-4-2 formation and leaving Rajiv van La Parra and Tommy Rowe on the bench. Kick-off was delayed slightly by the sheer number of fans making their way into the ground. But the delay dinn't bother Villa – they came racing out of the blocks with sluggish Wolves struggling to get a hold of the ball in the opening stages.

strugging to get a now of the stages.

They took an early lead in spectacular fashion when Kozak took Alan Hutton's pass – via a Gabby Agbonlahor dummy – and fired an unstoppable 25-yarder past Ikeme.

### Clipping

The 5,000 or so Villa fans in attendance went wild – and just six minutes later they were nearly celebrating again when Kozak took advantage of a Richard Stearman slip before clipping off the bar from eight yards out.

Struggling Wolves were all over the place at the back and Villa should have punished them yet again seconds later, but the lively Kozak sent a free header past the post with the goal at his mercy.

Gradually Wolves, with the home fans growing restless at an alarmingly messy opening from their team, found their feet.

Benik Afobe, who increasingly came deep to link up play, fed James Henry whose left-footed effort bobbled wide.

Afobe was again involved when he cleverly worked some space in the Villa box and then teed up Iorfa, who saw his powerful shot deflect past

the post.
Wolves were much better in possession but Villa continued to threaten on the counter-attack. Scott Sinclair and Agbonlahor too easily found



Dave Edwards of Wolverhampton Wanderers celebrates after scoring a goal to make it 1-1

space in behind Kevin McDonald and Conor Coady, keen to make a big impression on his

Molineux bow, did just that with some tenacious tackling and positive passing. His dangerous cross was expertly headed behind by Richards as

Wolves showed further improvement. Shortly after half-time, two tenacious challenges from Coady suddenly led to Dicko racing towards the box, but Ciaran Clark intercepted just as the striker was about to shoot

That got the home fans going and a minute later Molineux nearly erupted when Wolves

should have equalised. Afobe dispossessed Clark

snould have equalised. Arone dispossessed clairs, near the corner flag and crossed to Dicko, but his disappointing effort was easy for Mark Bunn.
Wolves' pressure finally told when superb work from Dominic Iorfa set up a deserved equaliser – he skipped past Sinclair and crossed low for Edwards, whose cheeky flick beat Bunn at the near root.

However, Wolves' good work was almost immediately undone when Callum Robinson's scuffed shot was tapped home by Kozak for his second of the game just a minute later.

Afobe had the last laugh, taking Dicko's perfect pass and coolly slotting past Bunn.

### **Under-21s gain** good experience

UPCOMING defender Shaun Donnellan thinks Albion's under-21s will have gained great experience despite disap-pointment at the Tournoi European. The Baggies youngsters came up against some of their European coun-

terparts at the tournament in Brittany where games were limited to just 50 minutes.

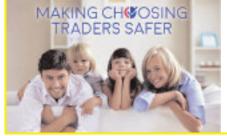
minutes.
After a draw with Marseille and narrow defeats to Lorient and Anderlecht, the Baggies lost on penalties to Rennes

in their play-off game.

Donnellan – who travelled with the senior squad to both Austria and the USA earlier in pre-season – was pleased to see the group compete with their prestigious opponents."

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